

(Mr. INSLEE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL) is recognized for 5 minutes. (Mr. PASCRELL addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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(Mr. PALLONE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CALIFORNIA'S SESQUICENTENNIAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the California delegation, I submit the following statements relating to California's 150th anniversary of Statehood.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate California's 150th Anniversary. This is a momentous occasion as we recognize the most populace and one of the most diverse states in the Union. With 52 Congressional Districts, each brings its own culture, tradition, attitude and history to the state.

California's First Congressional District contains the finest wines, greatest fishing, and richest forests in our nation. From chardonnay to cabernet, the vineyards within the First District produce outstanding varietal wines. The 400 wineries use cutting-edge science with traditional techniques to provide wines of every type and vintage, for beginning tasters to advanced collectors.

The Napa Valley Wine Auction, held each June, has become the largest and most successful charity wine auction in the world since its beginning in 1981. Hundreds of wine enthusiasts and auction-goers from across the nation, as well as a growing number of international guests, travel to participate in a gala weekend of tastings, dining, art shows, and auctions. As the auction has grown, along with the wines it showcases, it has raised millions of dollars for local health care. Sponsored by the Napa Valley Vintners Association, the auction has donated over \$16 million to local charities, raising a record-breaking \$9.5 million this year alone.

North of the grapevines of Napa, Sonoma, Mendocino, Solano and Lake Counties, lie the magnificent Redwoods, which make their home in Del Norte, Humboldt and Mendocino counties. In the midst of large fishing and timber industries, these giant trees, some over

2,000 years of age and over 350 feet in height, annually attract over one million adults and children from around the world who stare in amazement at the enormity of the world's tallest trees. Redwood National Park, home to over 110,000 acres, was established in 1968 and expanded ten years later to protect the slow maturing redwoods.

Fort Bragg, California is the setting for the Annual World's Largest Salmon BBQ, which is held on the July 4th weekend. This year commemorated the 29th anniversary of the event that benefits the local Salmon Restoration Association (SRA). Its goal is to replenish the once great numbers of salmon in the Northern California waters. Members of the SRA are joined by volunteers from across the region and help serve 5,000 pounds of salmon, 5,000 ears of corn, 1,000 pounds of salad and 850 loaves of French bread.

The First Congressional District is also home to Solano County's Travis Air Force Base, which currently houses the largest airlift organization in the Air Force. Travis, established in 1942, is assigned to the 60th Air Mobility Wing, consisting of the 60th Operations, Logistics, Support, and Medical Groups. For 50 years, Travis has presented the Travis Air Expo, attracting more than 200,000 guests each year, who watch this two-day event featuring multiple performances by some of the world's top military, civilian and vintage aerial demonstrators. The Travis Air Expo has established itself as the premier military air show in Northern California.

Mr. Speaker, these are just a few of the important events held in the First Congressional District that reflect the strength, character and integrity of our residents who represent the diversity of the entire state. It is appropriate at this time, Mr. Speaker, that we recognize and celebrate the birth of the great state of California.

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, 150 years ago this past Saturday the state of California entered into the Union. I rise today to commemorate this anniversary, and to celebrate the resources and treasures of the 2nd congressional district.

Historically, the great state of California is most often associated with the Gold Rush. Northern California was the main destination of those in search of quick wealth. The banks of the Feather River yielded great riches to those who were in the right place at the right time, but the precious metal that caused a rush to the West was not the only treasure that California possessed.

Young settlers whose dreams had not materialized in the gold fields soon turned to the fertile Central Valley and envisioned golden acres of grain. Today those acres are covered with fruit trees, rice fields, and almond and walnut orchards, as the valley continues to yield its agricultural treasure, making California the leading agricultural economy in the world.

Others looked at the golden promise in the vast forests. Their labor provided the lumber for the growing towns and cities of Northern California. A tremendous renewable resource to the American people, our forests provide materials for homes and businesses, as well as endless recreational opportunities and habitat for unique plant and animal species.

Some entrepreneurs recognized that there were other ways to gather gold than simply panning in a streambed. They opened dry goods stores, banks and hotels. Women found

that they could earn a living utilizing their household skills cooking and cleaning for miners who couldn't. California was born a land of golden opportunities and to this day she continues to call to those willing to take a risk in order to improve their own lives.

Many came to California for only a visit, but stayed a lifetime. The specious skies, majestic mountains, and rushing rivers of Northern California stirred their souls, while her fertile valleys, gentle climate, and endless opportunities captured their imagination. Yes, gold fever may have lured early settlers here, but even though the stores of that precious metal have mostly given out, people still flock to California today.

As a third generation Northern Californian, I am very proud of the beauty and resources of my native land. I am proud to celebrate the 150 years that this jewel has been an important part of our great nation.

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today representing California's Third Congressional District in celebrating the Sesquicentennial of the great state of California's admittance to the Union.

California's Third District is one of the truly diverse regions of the country. The district stretches from Sacramento's urban, southwestern suburbs to the spacious northern country of Tehama, serving as a bridge between the flat agricultural lands of the upper Sacramento River Valley and the state's northern, timber-rich highlands. From East to West, the District lies between the majestic Sierra and Coastal Range.

The roots of the Third District can be traced parallel to those of the state. On January 24th, 1848, James Marshall reached into the icy waters of the American River near Sacramento and found the first gold nugget. People from around the globe came to California in search of their dreams. By August of 1849, the City of Sacramento was born and nearly a year later, in September of 1850, the State of California was made into the 31st State.

The Northern portion of the district is home to some of this country's most beautiful sites, including both the Lassen National Park and the Mendocino National Forest. The picturesque Sutter Buttes are considered the smallest mountain range in North America.

Today, the District is one of the leading producers of agricultural crops, including an abundant production of rice, tomatoes, peaches, pears, almonds, pistachios and avocados. The Third District is also the home of the University of California at Davis, one of the leading research universities in the country.

But most of all, what makes the Third District special are the people who reside in it. The tight-knit communities in counties like Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Sacramento, Solano, Sutter, Tehama and Yolo instill a strong sense of family values that will carry on through future generations.

I am extremely proud to reside in and represent the Third Congressional District of California. It is with honor that I rise today to recognize the 150th anniversary of this Great State and our wonderful district.

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize California's State Capitol, the great city of Sacramento, in celebration of the 150th anniversary of California's admission to the Union.

Located in the heart of Northern California, the River City of Sacramento boasts a rich

blending of art and culture offering the comforts of a small town and the amenities of a growing metropolitan area. As the capitol of the sixth largest economy in the world, California, Sacramento is home to the world's largest almond processing plant, Blue Diamond and continues to rank as a major agricultural producer year after year. But while Sacramento has a thriving business community, the state legislature also claims Sacramento as its home base. The magnificent State Capital building alone attracts scores of world leaders, businessmen and women, school children and tourists alike.

Helping to keep Sacramento's economy booming is its natural positioning as a gateway for industry. Located at the crossroads of the state's north-south and east-west trade routes, Sacramento is able to host a deep-water port and a major airport. The film industry is another enterprise attracted to Sacramento, but for different reasons. From gold-rush era store fronts to picture perfect Victorian homes to modern office buildings, Sacramento has lent itself as an aesthetically pleasing backdrop to a long list of cinema classics, most recently, *The General's Daughter* and *Oscar Winner, American Beauty*.

Major league sports teams have also found a successful and welcoming home along the Delta. Two major league basketball teams, the Sacramento Kings and the Sacramento Monarchs play to sold out crowds in the Arco Arena. Most recently, Sacramento welcomed a new team, the Sacramento River Cats. A farm team for the Oakland A's, the River Cats play in a brand new stadium just 450 yards from Old Town Sacramento, bridging together Sacramento's colorful gold rush past with a new set of hometown heroes.

Over the years, Sacramento has seen some significant firsts. The initial transcontinental railroad meeting between the "Big Four", Leland Stanford, Charles Crocker, Collis P. Huntington, and Mark Hopkins was held above a downtown hardware store in 1860. Also in 1860, the Pony Express began its 1,980-mile ten-day delivery service between St. Joseph, Missouri and Sacramento. And Tower Records, America's second largest record retailer got its start selling used jukebox records for 10 cents each in a Sacramento drug store.

Known for its many acclaimed historical points of interest such as Sutter's Fort and the Delta King, Sacramento is also respected for being an environmentally conscious community. With all that goes on in and around this city, one would hardly guess that Sacramento could brag about having more park space per capital than any other city in the nation. But it is true; this city has many more trees than people. One of the greatest success stories is the American River Parkway. Designated a natural preserve in 1960, the 32-mile long parkway is the first, and one of the few, riparian river habitat preservations within a major urban center. Its 7,000-acres offer opportunities for fishing, rafting, kayaking, hiking, and nature study. Clearly, residents of Sacramento have a great city to be proud of.

With all that Sacramento has to offer, some like to think of Sacramento as California's best-kept secret. True, it is the ideal place to live and do business. But I like to think of it simply as home.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize California's Sesquicentennial. I am very proud to represent California's Sixth Con-

gressional District. This district includes all of Marin and most of Sonoma County, the region north of the Golden Gate Bridge. The District, initially the home of Native American Tribes, has been under seven sovereign flags: England, Spain, Russia, Mexico, the Bear Flag Republic, California and the U.S.A.

The Sixth Congressional District has been home to a wide variety of businesses and agricultural endeavors. Sonoma County recently earned 3rd place in a nationwide *Forbes* magazine that ranked the best cities in which to do business. Since 1987, the area from Novato to Santa Rosa has earned the nickname "Telecom Valley," for the large number of telecommunications companies that the area has produced. Marin and Sonoma Counties are also home to many other high-tech firms. In the agricultural arena, Sonoma County contains dozens of vineyards, wineries, and apple orchards. Both counties have a long and proud history of dairy and poultry farming.

The Sixth Congressional District also has a rich musical and artistic history. From the Great Depression through the 1950s, the Russian River area of Sonoma County was the venue for Big Bands. The Kingston Trio began their career in Marin County in the 1950s. Their ownership of the Trident in Sausalito brought other famous and soon-to-be-famous to the country. In the 1960s, Marin resident Bill Graham's productions engendered poster art that defined much of the nation's art of that decade, just as his concerts defined the popular music and culture of the times. Today, Sonoma State University is building the Don and Maureen Green Music Center—a music, dance, and drama performance center on the level of Tanglewood, that will become an international destination for its summer festivals.

Film arts in the District are highlighted by the Mill Valley Film Festival, long known as the springboard for new talents. The District has often been chosen as a filming location for such movies as Alfred Hitchcock's *The Birds* and *Vertigo*, as well as *Star Wars* and others. Marin County is also home to George Lucas, a frequent Oscar winner over the last several years.

Sonoma and Marin counties' residents are notable for their environmental consciousness, and a look at the natural treasures of the District makes the reason obvious. The District is home to half of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, the nation's most visited National Park; Point Reyes National Seashore; the breathtaking Russian River recreation area; plus several state and county parks; mountains and valleys; redwood groves and miles and miles of coastline. Truly, the Sixth Congressional District is a place we are all proud to call "home."

More information about California's Sixth Congressional District can be found in the Local Legacies collection at the American Folklife Center for the Library of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay tribute to the Sixth Congressional District in honor of California's Sesquicentennial. I am very proud to be representing such an accomplished and beautiful area of California in Congress. Happy 150th Birthday, California!

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, California's 7th congressional district includes portions of Contra Costa and Solano Counties and is situated astride San Francisco Bay and the Sacramento River. Its economic, demographic and political history is deeply

linked to its geography. Industry ranging from oil refining to shipping, an extensive Navy presence, and deep concerns about water quality and the environment—especially the protection of the Bay and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta—have long been central features of the region. It is no accident that it was in Martinez, the Contra Costa County seat, Sierra Club founder John Muir resided and wrote his tracts that transformed our view of natural resource protection.

The 7th district is also the site of significant national historical events from the era of World War II. At the site of the former Port Chicago Naval Weapons Magazine (currently the Concord Naval Weapons Station), the largest domestic loss of life during World War II occurred on July 17, 1944 when over 320 men, most of whom were black, were killed in a cataclysmic explosion. The subsequent refusal of black sailors, who were the subject of discrimination, to resume the loading of munitions led to the largest court martial in Navy history and a landmark civil rights case that helped facilitate President Truman's decision to integrate the armed forces later in the decade. Congress designated the site of the explosion as the Port Chicago National Memorial in 1992. In December of 1999, after a long effort I led with other lawmakers, activists, and veterans, President Clinton issued a Presidential pardon to Mr. Freddie Meeks of Los Angeles, one of the last remaining men who was court-martialed more than half a century ago.

Richmond, California, on the 7th district's west side, was a small city when World War II began and the Kaiser Shipyards were created to build the Liberty and Victory ships that supported the war effort. Tens of thousands of new workers—including many minorities and women—ballooned the local population and created the legendary "Rosie the Riveter" image. Together with providing women previously unavailable jobs in industrial plants, Richmond served as the epicenter of dramatic changes in American life that were to affect generations including racial and gender integration of the workplace, group health services and expansive child care. Congress is now completing action on my legislation to create a National Historic Site to commemorate the rich history of Richmond's contributions to ending WWII and changing our society forever.

Those historic changes continue today with the conversion of the former century-old Mare Island Naval Shipyard in Vallejo to civilian uses including environmental protection and local economic development. The 7th district has an historic past and today is a critical part of the San Francisco Bay Area's economic, environmental, cultural and communications life.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, this past Saturday marked the 150th anniversary of the entry of the State of California into the United States. I rise today to recognize this important date and to bring to the attention of my colleagues the important contribution of the Presidio of San Francisco to the history of the Eighth Congressional District and to the State of California as a whole.

The Presidio has overlooked San Francisco Bay since the United States came into existence. Built in 1776 by the Spanish Empire in North America, the military outpost of the Presidio was created after the great inland harbor of San Francisco was discovered during colonial expeditions. The Presidio was briefly

under the control of the newly independent Republic of Mexico starting in 1821, but was finally transferred to American control by treaty in 1848.

In many ways, the history of the Presidio has mirrored the events that shaped our nation. During the 1870's and 1880's, the Presidio served as a frontier outpost, from which soldiers saw action in the Indian Wars. San Franciscans are proud of the service at the Presidio during this time of the Buffalo Soldiers, all Black-regiments established to help rebuild the country after the Civil War and to patrol the western frontier.

By the turn of the century, the Presidio shifted from an outpost to a major military installation and a base for American expansion into the Pacific. In 1898, tens of thousands of American soldiers camped at the Presidio in preparation for the invasion of the Philippines during the Spanish American War. In 1915, General John Pershing, later to become the commander of U.S. expeditionary forces in World War I, led the pursuit into Mexico of Pancho Villa from the Presidio. The Presidio became headquarters for the Western Defense Command during action in the Pacific in World War II, and soldiers began digging foxholes in local beaches in anticipation of a possible invasion.

Playing a significant role in the preservation of nature, the Presidio's role in the San Francisco Bay Area transcends its military roots. As far back as the 1880's, the first large-scale tree planting and post beautification projects were undertaken at the Presidio. The building of the Golden Gate Bridge from 1933 to 1937 increased the public use of the Presidio. The Presidio was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1962. From that time to its eventual closure as a military base in 1989, and its transfer in 1994, thanks to the visionary actions of Philip Burton, to the National Park Service, the significance of the Presidio has shifted from a strategically important military base to a gem in the National Park system and an integral part of California's landscape and history.

Today, the Presidio continues to reflect the changing priorities of our nation. In a change reflecting a swords-to-plowshares approach, the former military installation at the Presidio has become a national park like no other. Surrounded by dense neighborhood in San Francisco, the Presidio is now an urban oasis of open space that preserves a critical habitat for some rare and endangered species. The Presidio contains an incredible assortment of recreational, cultural, and natural resources that makes it a top destination for visitors to San Francisco and a well-loved and visited site for the City's residents. Fittingly, the Presidio has also become home to a Swords-to-Plowshares program which helps veterans re-assimilate into civilian society through job training, housing assistance, and counseling.

Mr. Speaker, the Presidio of San Francisco, with its proximity to the Golden Gate Bridge and the California Coastline, its beautiful forests and unique ecology, and especially its role in the development of California, deserves recognition for its place in the history of the Golden State. I am proud to recognize this contribution and to honor the Great State of California on its sesquicentennial anniversary.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to commemorate the Sesquicentennial of California's statehood. One hundred and

fifty years ago, California became the 31st state in the union. It is my great privilege to represent the Ninth District of California, which has played a vital role in the history, economy, and culture of this wonderful state.

The Ninth District has a rich history of its own in the last 150 years. Home to the City and Port of Oakland and the University of California at Berkeley, this East Bay area offers ethnic diversity, intellectual ferment, and economic vitality, and has made a wide array of contributions to science, technology, literature, the arts, and business.

Oakland emerged as a major commercial and transportation center in the heyday of the California Gold Rush of 1849. It became a crucial transit point from the San Francisco Bay to Sutter's Mill and the Sierra Nevada foothills. Oakland dramatically expanded after the tragic San Francisco earthquake of 1906 as Californians sought firmer ground. The city again ballooned upward in population during the Second World War, when thousands of Americans came to the District to work in the busy shipyards, the Oakland Army Base, and the Naval Air Station in Alameda.

As the city grew, so did its commitment to progressive activism. Individuals such as Cotrell Lawrence Dellums, a Pullman porter and a Bay area representative for the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, began organizing fellow African-Americans to join the union in 1925, when Oakland was still strongly linked to the passenger rails. As the head of the Alameda County NAACP, he helped the AFL-CIO consolidate its membership by delivering the support of Black railroad workers and members of the NAACP, and was among the first to organize voter registration campaigns in the district.

C.L. Dellums' spirit of activism has remained alive in California's District Nine throughout the years, demonstrated by minority groups organizing to demand equality, the student anti-war protests at the University of California, and working men and women joining together to demand better working conditions.

Two-time Socialist Party Candidate for Mayor and "Call of the Wild" author Jack London called Oakland his home for nearly thirty years. From that city, London wrote many of his vivid evocations of the Far North. The East Bay's sometimes chilly climate may have helped inspire some of his more picturesque depictions of life in the Yukon. Nor was London the only cultural icon to grace Oakland's streets: Robert Louis Stephenson, and Gertrude Stein both lived in Oakland, and all enriched our literary heritage. Today, Jack London Square bears Oakland's famous son's name, such an important part of the city that is standing at the waterfront.

As a sea, air and rail port, Oakland is at the hub of California trade. The maritime port stretches across nineteen miles of San Francisco Bay. One of the largest ports on the West Coast, the Port of Oakland is today second only to New York in terms of container terminal space. It is the primary sea terminal connecting the western United States of Asia, South America, and Europe. Like the seaport, the airport also represents a crucial link in the chain of intrastate, interstate, and international commerce. The Oakland Airport was also the starting point in 1937 for Amelia Earhart's ill-fated round-the-world flight.

In addition to its role in transportation, the Ninth District also plays a leading role in the

nation's academic life. The University of California is one of the finest academic institutions in the country. It was born out of the heady spirit of California's 1849 gold rush. In that year, the authors of the State Constitution demanded that the legislature "encourage by all suitable means the promotion of intellectual, scientific, moral and agricultural improvement" of the people of California. The gold rush may have played out, but the university that was eventually created at Berkeley has uncovered a rich vein of ideas. Today, the University of California ranks among the top universities in the world.

The historic landmarks in this district include the Camron-Stanford House, Dunsmuir House, Mills Hall located on the Mills College campus, the Paramount Theatre, the U.S.S. *Hornet* (CV-12), the several buildings designed by architects Julia Morgan and Bernard Maybeck. Additional landmarks in the district include the C.L. Dellums Train Station, the just-opened Chabot Observatory and Science Center, Children's Fairyland (Walt Disney's blueprint for Disneyland), Jack London Square, Lake Merritt, Lawrence Hall of Science, Oakland's Chinatown, and the Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building.

In recent history, our district is experiencing increased growth of "dot coms," biotechnology research centers and hi-technology companies such as Bayer, Chiron, Sybase and Wind River.

Four of our annual events were recently placed as a "Local Legacy" as a centerpiece of the Library of Congress' Bicentennial celebration. These events are the Solano Stroll, Dia de los Muertos, the Black Cowboys Parade and the Festival of Greece. I am proud that these events are recognized by the Library of Congress as a local legacy.

With a century and a half of history behind it, California now stands at the brink of a new century and a new millennium. Its gold-rush inspired state motto is "Eureka," a Greek word proclaiming discovery. As we move forward into the future, we must continue to celebrate our diversity, remember our past, and refute Gertrude Stein's famous Oakland lament that "there was no there there." There is a there, there, and for a hundred and fifty years there has been.

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Sesquicentennial of California's admission into the Union as the nation's 31st state on September 9, 1850. California's 10th Congressional District has been instrumental in the state's history. In the 1800s, my district had a strong connection with the Old West, populated by Americans during California's Gold Rush and a center for miners. The 10th Congressional District became one of the main routes to the gold fields and quickly became a mercantile stopover for miners seeking their fortune in the Mother Lode.

Many of those miners purchased land in this beautiful area. In 1854 Daniel and Andrew Inman founded Danville when they bought 400 acres with their mining earnings. By 1858 the new Danville community grew and thrived, complete with a blacksmith, hotel, wheelwright, general store, and a post office.

The City of Lafayette was well known throughout California in the early 1860 as a stop for the Pony Express from April 3, 1860 to late October 1861. The 200-mile trail served as the fastest mail delivery between St. Joseph, Missouri and Sacramento, California.

The Town of Moraga was named for Joaquin Moraga, the grandson of Joseph Joaquin Moraga who was the second in command of the Anza Expedition of 1776, the founder of San Francisco, Mission Delores and the founder and first commandant of the Presidio. In 1835, he received a 13,316-acre land grant from the Mexican government, which included parts of Orinda and Lafayette. On a hill overlooking the Moraga Valley, Joaquin Moraga built an adobe home, thought to be the oldest building in Contra Costa County.

Today the 10th Congressional District maintains its historic roots combining clusters of narrow roads and early buildings with 21st Century high technology office parks. The citizens in the 10th Congressional District are among the highest skilled and educated workforce in the nation. While they are at the epicenter of the high-tech economy, they are also committed historic preservation and protecting the natural physical environment in one of the nation's more desirable places to live. The 10th Congressional District is committed to preserving its past and looking forward to the next one hundred-fifty years as a part of this great nation.

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my fellow delegates to celebrate and honor the 150th birthday of the great state of California.

I have the honor of representing the 11th district of California, which includes the San Joaquin County cities of Stockton and Lodi. Each has played a dynamic part in the historic and economic development of the Golden State.

The town of Lodi was settled by families of German descent from North Dakota. It first served as a railroad stop known as Mokelumne Station in 1869, which was renamed to Lodi three years later. Formally the "Watermelon Capital," Lodi today is known as the "Wine grape Capital" of the world. This booming town of over 50,000 residents is home to the Tokay Grape and over 40,000 acres of vineyards. Some of California's finest wineries are located in nearby Woodbridge and Acampo.

Stockton is the backbone of California's agricultural hub and home to nearly 250,000 residents. It is our state's largest inland shipping port, which sends the San Joaquin Valley's farm products to the open market. Thanks to its rich soil and temperate climate, Stockton is one of the most productive growing areas in California. Major crops include asparagus, cherries, tomatoes, walnuts and almonds. Stockton is also home to the University of the Pacific, a charming campus known for its programs in law and pharmacy. Stockton has historically been a multicultural city. Older generations of families from Europe and Mexico are being joined by new arrivals from South East Asia and Central America. In 1999, Stockton was awarded the "All American City" award by the National Civic League.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed a great honor to be a life long native of the 11th district and to represent it today in the Congress. The 11th is one of the most diverse culturally and economically. But together, its people serve an important role in the economy of both California and America. I am pleased to join my delegates today in celebrating the Sesquicentennial of the Golden State.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues from the golden State of California in marking the 150th anniversary of statehood.

It was 50 years ago—in the summer of 1950 when California celebrated the centennial of its admission to the Union—that my new bride and I moved to the San Francisco Bay Area. And it was half a century ago that Annette and I began our connection with the part of our state that is now the 12th Congressional District. In the fall of 1950, I began my studies as a graduate student in economics at the University of California, Berkeley, and at the same time I began teaching at San Francisco State University. When we arrived in California, it had a population of 10.6 million. Today, Mr. Speaker, our state's population has reached 33.1 million—1 out of every 8 Americans is a Californian.

As we mark 150 years of statehood, it is instructive to look both to our historic past, but at the same time to look to the future, and California and the 12th Congressional District was as important in shaping our nation's past as it is today in leading the way toward our nation's future.

Mr. Speaker, in the mid-19th century, the Bay Area was the principal gateway to the California gold rush. In 1847—with the Mexican War still underway, two years before of the influx of the gold miners of 1849, and three years before California's admission to the Union—San Francisco had a population of 459 people, half of whom were U.S. citizens. Three years later on July 1, 1850, the U.S. Census Bureau reported that the population of San Francisco was 94,766, and at that same time, 626 vessels were anchored in the San Francisco Bay.

When California became a State, the legislature established San Francisco County, but with the explosive growth of the area just six years later in 1856, it was necessary to create the new county of San Mateo from the southern part of San Francisco County. After the initial chaos of the early years of the gold rush, the growth of these two counties was more orderly but still robust.

San Mateo County was given a boost by the tragedy of the massive 1906 San Francisco earthquake, when thousands of displaced and terrified residents fled the city and encamped in what became Daly City. As the Bay Area developed, San Mateo County likewise grew as a cluster of communities—each filled with growing numbers of Irish, Italian, Greek, and Asian-Americans moved to the suburbs from "the City." Each of these cities developed its own unique character and flavor, and each has contributed to the diversity and cohesion of our area.

Today—a century and a half after California became our nation's 31st state—the 12th Congressional District continues to reflect the rich diversity of our past and the golden hope for our state and our nation's future. Two elements strike me as particularly significant in this regard, Mr. Speaker.

First, the 12th Congressional District reflects the ethnic complexity of California and of the nation. As The Los Angeles Times (September 8) noted, "The Gold Rush was a defining moment in the nation's history, a remarkable, virtually overnight influx of people from every quarter of the world." In many ways that influx of a diverse population a century and a half ago established the pattern of our state. Ethnic diversity is not just a concept in our area, it is a daily reality.

One quarter of our population in the 12th Congressional District are Asian—Chinese,

Filipino, South Asian, Japanese, Southeast Asian and others. Over an eighth of our population is Hispanic with a smaller population of African Americans. A recent article in the San Francisco Examiner on Daly City referred to this diversity in praising the mixture of "Spanish, Tagalog and Hindi" heard in the city's markets, and noted that "ethnic diversity is a source of pride for the community as reflected in its integrated neighborhoods." As the State of California moves from a majority white to a "majority minority" population and as our nation's population becomes increasingly diverse, the 12th Congressional District is a harbinger of the benefits of a harmonious, ethnically diverse community.

Mr. Speaker, this is not to say that tolerance and multi-ethnic harmony has always been the case in our state. California, as the rest of the nation, has had its share of discrimination and racism. Chinese and other Asians suffered harassment and intimidation during the era of the Chinese Exclusion Act. During World War II, tens of thousands of American citizens of Japanese ancestry were sent to relocation camps. Hispanic-Americans have faced discrimination for using Spanish and maintaining their national cultures. But we have learned, we have made progress, and we continue to struggle with the complications of diversity.

Mr. Speaker, a second element is the importance of the Peninsula and of San Francisco in our state and our nation's economy. A century and a half ago, panning for gold made a few people rich quickly, but those who made the real contribution to our state and our nation's economy as well as real wealth for themselves were the individuals who brought the entrepreneurial spirit which gave rise to such legendary businesses as Levi Strauss, Ghiradelli chocolate, and the Wells Fargo Bank.

A century and a half ago, Gold was discovered at Sutter's fort on January 24, 1848, but the first newspaper story about the discovery to appear in a newspaper in the eastern United States was only published eight months later in the New York Herald on August 19. When California was formally admitted as a State to the Union on September 9, 1850, it required six weeks for the steamer bearing the banner "California is a State" to arrive in San Francisco. The celebration of statehood in California did not take place until October 29—a full 50 days after statehood was a reality. Today, California is in the forefront of the instantaneous communication revolution, as Internet communication and e-commerce led by firms in Silicon Valley and San Francisco revolutionize the way the entire world communicates.

Today, Mr. Speaker, we continue to have an ebullient economy in the Bay Area, and this is an important element of our state's contribution to the entire nation. As our distinguished Governor Gray Davis said recently: "We're experiencing a second Gold Rush. People came here 150 years ago to find their fortune, and the dot-com economy is bringing another generation of risk takers and entrepreneurs. All this energy and vitality helps drive our economy and makes for the robust society we currently enjoy" (San Jose Mercury News, September 9). Today legendary companies in the 12th Congressional District such as Oracle in the information technology sector and Genentech in the biotech sector are leading the nation in creativity and innovation.

Mr. Speaker, it is important today that we not only mark a century and a half of California's statehood with celebration and congratulation, but that we also use this opportunity to reflect upon how our past has shaped our present and how the decisions we take today will determine our future. If we commit ourselves to continue and strengthen the best of our state's traditions, we can assure that the future for our children and grandchildren will be even more golden than our past.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge California's historic 150th birthday celebration. California officially entered the United States on September 9, 1850 but the foundations for the development of California were in place well before this important date. Under the Spanish Empire, the colonization and eventual settlement of California was greatly influenced by the mission system. The missions were founded to secure Spain's claim to land and to teach the native people Christianity and the Spanish way of life. The placement of the missions had a direct impact on the development of California, as the missions fostered agriculture, vintnering, livestock raising, and trade as well as religion.

I am proud to recognize Mission San Jose, a historical mission in Fremont, California and part of the 13th Congressional District. Mission San Jose was founded on June 11, 1797, by Father Fermin Francisco de Lausen. The mission was the fourteenth of the twenty-one Spanish Missions in California and was one of the most prosperous of all the California missions. Mission San Jose was the center of industry and agriculture; its location was chosen for the abundance of natural resources in this region.

In 1868, a giant earthquake shattered the walls and roof the Mission San Jose church. The site was cleared and a wood Gothic-style church was erected directly over the original red tiled mission floor. In 1956, the town of Mission San Jose incorporated with four others to become the City of Fremont. Plans to reconstruct the church of Mission San Jose were begun in 1973. Mission San Jose stands today as a testament to California's history and the influence of the Spanish as part of California's rich heritage.

As we commemorate the Sesquicentennial anniversary of California, I am proud to recognize Mission San Jose and the part it has played in the history of California.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the State of California and the innovations of its 14th Congressional District. California has numerous historical landmarks, but only one is a garage in Palo Alto where the technological revolution was born. A plaque proclaims this The Birthplace of Silicon Valley.

In 1938, William R. Hewlett and David Packard rented a garage to found a fledgling electronic business and it was here that they produced their first commercial audio oscillator, an instrument that generates audio frequencies used by the broadcast and entertainment industries to test sound quality. Orders soon began to pour in from companies such as Walt Disney, and the Hewlett-Packard Company was born.

By the end of 1939, sales had soared to almost \$5,000 a year, and Hewlett-Packard was forced to abandon the garage for more spacious quarters to house their rapidly expanding company. Within 20 years Hewlett-Packard

was manufacturing over 370 electronic products and in 1972, H-P introduced the first of its hand-held calculators which would cement the company's place in the forefront of the electronics industry. The company, of course, also manufactures computers and by 1994, H-P's sales in computer products, service, and support were almost \$20 billion, or about 78% of its total business.

The garage where Hewlett-Packard began still remains and is a reminder of how great inventions and companies can spring from humble origins. The 14th Congressional District has become the heart of a booming technological revolution that continues to change the world in which we live and expand the boundaries of human and scientific accomplishment. I'm proud to represent this distinguished district and I ask my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, to join me in honoring the 150th anniversary of the State of California.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. Speaker, a leader in the U.S. and global economy, California—in particular, Silicon Valley—is an economic powerhouse. From the quicksilver mercury mines to the high-tech computer industry, as is the case with California as a whole, Silicon Valley has a rich, diverse history. As we turn to celebrate the 150th anniversary of California's statehood, we are prompted to reflect upon our region's natural wealth and, most importantly, to reflect upon the spirit of its people. Mr. Speaker, as I rise to pay tribute to the Golden State's sesquicentennial, I wish to honor those Californians, past and present, whose dedication and ingenuity have made this state one of which I am proud to represent in Congress.

Silicon Valley's first inhabitants, the Ohlone Indians, discovered one of the original and richest mines in California. The discovery of the red ore of mercury (dubbed "mohetka" by the Ohlones), however, quickly changed the face of the region. It also impacted the rest of California, as the mercury discovery favorably contributed to the success of gold and silver mining. Andres Castillero, a Mexican cavalry officer, was the first to file a legal claim to the mineral deposit, and was granted title, during the mid-1800s. Following the Mexican-American war and California's entry into the United States, the Quicksilver Mining Company assumed management of the mines in 1864. Like his successors, Samuel Butterworth, first President of the Quicksilver Mining Company, did much to initiate early development of today's Silicon Valley. During his tenure at the Company, seven hundred buildings were constructed to support the quicksilver mining community including a company store, schoolhouse, boarding house, a community center, and church.

Although the bonanza days of quicksilver production are over, and only a few landmarks remain, the century of mercury production and the hard work of early miners have left an indelible mark on California. The same entrepreneurial spirit, which led to the early economic development of California, can still be found in Silicon Valley today. Two recent pioneers, Jack Kilby and Robert Noyce, paved the way for the region becoming a global leader in the high-tech computer industry by inventing the integrated circuit.

It seems that the integrated circuit was destined to be developed. Two inventors, unbeknownst to each other, both designed almost identical integrated circuits at roughly the

same time. From 1958 to 1959, electrical engineers Robert Noyce, co-founder of the Fairchild Semiconductor Corporation, and Jack Kilby of Texas Instruments, were working on an answer to the same dilemma: how to make more of less. In designing a complex electronic machine like a computer, it was necessary to increase the number of components involved in order to make technical advances. The monolithic (i.e., formed from a single crystal) integrated circuit placed the previously separated transistors, resistors, capacitors and connecting wiring onto a single crystal (or "chip") made the semiconductor material. Kilby used germanium, while Noyce used silicon to create the semiconductor material.

As a result of their novel research, in 1959, U.S. patents were issued to Jack Kilby (awarded the 1970 National Medal of Science) and Texas Instruments for miniaturized electronic circuits and to Robert Noyce (the founder of Intel) and Fairchild Semiconductor Corporation for a silicon-based integrated circuit. After several years of legal battles, however, Texas Instruments and Fairchild Semiconductor Corporation wisely decided to cross-license their technologies. The first commercially available integrated circuits were manufactured by Fairchild Semiconductor Corporation in 1961. In the same year, Texas Instruments used the "chip" technology in Air Force computers and later to produce the first electronic portable calculator. Since then, all computers have begun to employ "chips" instead of individual transistors and their accompanying parts.

Like Silicon Valley's economy, the development of the integrated circuit has undergone tremendous change. The original circuit had only one transistor, three resistors and one capacitor—it was the size of an adult's pinkie finger. Today's integrated circuit is smaller than a penny and holds 125 million transistors. The industry generates approximately \$1 trillion annually, and "chip" technology is considered one of the most important innovations of humankind.

The one thing that has not changed in Silicon Valley: the independent, entrepreneurial spirit of its citizens. Mr. Speaker, as we recognize California on its 150th anniversary, I want to pay tribute to those Californians, especially the native Ohlone Indians, and to Mr. Butterworth, Mr. Kilby, and Mr. Noyce, who have made invaluable contributions to the prosperity of this state and to its people.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, today I proudly pay tribute to California on its 150th birthday. I would like to congratulate the great state of California and to recognize the Sixteenth District for its contributions to California's rich history.

Mr. Speaker, the history of California begins long before the introduction of Europeans to our land. For centuries the Ohlone, locally the Muwekma, lived in peace and in tranquility along the banks of the Guadalupe River in what has since become the city of San Jose. But centuries of peaceful existence for the Muwekma came to an end when, on November 29, 1797, Spanish Lieutenant Jose Juakin Moraga established the Pueblo de San Jose de Guadalupe. Created for the purpose of supplying the presidios of San Francisco and Monterey with food, the Pueblo became the first civil settlement in California.

The Pueblo was originally located one mile north of what is now downtown San Jose, but

due to flooding by the Guadalupe River, the Pueblo was forced to move south. With its fertile soil, the new location quickly became a center for agriculture. The rich harvests of the fields attracted settlers, causing the population of the area to rise quickly and steadily.

The rapid growth and development of this area marked an important time in California's history. By 1798 the Pueblo was so widely populated that its inhabitants constructed a one story, adobe Town Hall to meet the citizens' needs. The Hall housed the jail, courtroom, council chamber, and the offices of various governing officials.

One such official—Luis Peralta, an Apache Indian from Tubac, Mexico, was particularly influential in California's development and growth. At the age of sixteen Peralta came to California with two hundred and forty other colonists on the Juan Bautista de Anza Expedition from Mexico. In 1807 the Spanish government appointed him to the position of *Comisionado del Pueblo de San Jose*, and during his tenure he helped to shape the growth of the Pueblo and the surrounding area. His endeavors in furnishing troop supplies, supervising public works, and keeping the peace earned him good favor in the eyes of the Spanish government. In 1820 Spain granted Peralta 44,000 acres of land, the largest land grant of the time. The grant included the present day cities of Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland, Alameda, Piedmont, and parts of San Leandro. Peralta split the land between his four sons: Vincente, Doming, Antonio and Ignacio; they went on to develop and populate the land.

Thanks to the development of the Pueblo and the areas surrounding, this area has continued to grow and flourish through present times. It continues to contribute to California's economy as a center for high tech and manufacturing companies as the "Capitol of Silicon Valley," and ranks second as a national leader in exports. Mr. Speaker, again I would like to congratulate the people of California's Sixteenth District for their influence on the history and prosperity of the state.

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to congratulate California on its 150th anniversary. I would like to take this opportunity to mark the contributions of California's 17th district to California's rich history.

As the site of the Constitutional Convention in 1849, the city of Monterey played a pivotal role in California's admittance to the Union as our 31st state. But, the Monterey region also has a rich history that extends back several millennia before people from around the globe landed on its shores in the 16th century. Native Americans enjoyed an abundance of natural resources as early as 500 BC.

Monterey was later discovered by Spain on November 17, 1542 when Juan Cabrillo spotted La Bahia de los Pinos (Bay of Pines). It wasn't until 60 years later, in 1602, that Sebastian Viscaïno officially named the region "Monterey" to honor the Viceroy of New Spain who had authorized his expedition.

The Peninsula was first settled in 1770 when Gaspar de Portola and Father Junipero Serra arrived by land and sea to establish the City of Monterey itself. Monterey began its renown as the fiscal, military, and social center of Mexican California when Spain chose the city as the capital of Baja and Alta California in 1776. In the decades that followed, the set-

tlers began to leave the Presidio and expand throughout Monterey.

After Mexico's secession from Spain in 1822, Monterey flourished as Mexico opened up the region to international trade never allowed under Spanish rule and designated Monterey as California's sole port of entry. This booming trade also attracted American settlers to the Peninsula, many of whom eventually became Mexican citizens.

However, on July 2, 1846, Commodore John D. Sloat arrived in Monterey Bay, raised the American flag and claimed California for the United States. The Commodore waited five days before, on July 7, 1846, he finally sent 250 soldiers to land and take possession of the city. Monterey was captured without a single shot being fired. The American occupation lasted until the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848, thus making all of Alta California part of the United States.

As the most prominent city in the region, Monterey was the obvious selection as the site for California's Constitutional Convention in 1849. For six weeks 48 delegates of diverse backgrounds met in Colton Hall in downtown Monterey to debate and vote on the final text. The constitution was signed on October 13, 1849, and president Millard Fillmore officially welcomed California as our 31st state in 1850.

As the birthplace of American California, the city of Monterey is proud of its contributions to California's statehood. Further, I am proud to congratulate California on its sesquicentennial anniversary.

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, as the Great State of California celebrates its sesquicentennial, I would like to recognize the very fine people I have the privilege of representing in the 18th Congressional District.

Located in California's great Central Valley, it is recognized as one of the richest agricultural areas in the world and represents some of our nation's finest resources. Comprising all of Stanislaus and Merced Counties and portions of San Joaquin, Madera, and Fresno counties, the 18th District is within a few hours of all of California's riches, with Merced County being the "Gateway to Yosemite" National Park.

Many of the first settlers to the area attracted by gold. Today it is affordable housing, good jobs and the California climate that lure many of the newcomers. I am proud to report the first research university of the new millennium will be built by the University of California in Merced as we pave new paths and start new journeys into a golden tomorrow.

I would be remiss however if I didn't accurately point to the richest of our resources—the people who call the 18th Congressional District home. Within its boundaries are a people tightly woven together by a rich cultural tapestry. Our strength is found in the diversity of our people—proud, independent and full of character.

Like the pioneers who once settled our great state, these people embody the same spirit of adventure that will lead California into a prosperous future.

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I stand today with my fellow delegates in celebration of the Sesquicentennial of the State of California.

As you know, California was admitted into the union as the nation's 31st state 150 years ago. Since that time, our state has developed into a capital of the arts, a headquarters for

business, and a distinguished marketplace for agriculture.

Mr. Speaker, I represent the 19th District of California, which spreads across the farm country below the Sierra foothills from Visalia, south of Fresno, to the mountainous Mariposa County. Most of the landmass I represent is part of the Sierra Nevada, and it contains most of three national parks: Yosemite, Kings Canyon, and Sequoia. I am truly honored and privileged to represent an area so rich in splendor and American history.

Fresno, for example, is a city of both agricultural and industrial importance in California. A creation of the industrial age, Fresno was founded by the Central Pacific Railroad. Its city fathers also bred the local wine grape, developed the raisin industry, and cultivated the Smyrna fig. Now, Fresno County's crops also include cotton, citrus, tomatoes, cantaloupes, plums, peaches, and alfalfa. In fact, Mr. Speaker, Fresno County has grown to currently produce more farm products in dollar value than any other in the country.

My home of Mariposa County is also of great historical significance. At one time it occupied more than one-fifth of the state's 30,000 square miles and is currently home to the oldest working courthouse west of the Rocky Mountains. Made of hand-planed local lumber is 1854, the Mariposa County Courthouse remains the seat of government and justice to this day and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The courthouse was accepted as a National Historic Landmark because some of the most celebrated and noted civil, mining, and water cases were held in its courtroom: the Fremont land grant title and Biddle Boggs v. Merced Mining Company are but two. During the 1953 centennial celebration of the courthouse, the State Bar recognized the building's significance by declaring it to be preserved as a "shrine to justice in California."

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, the 19th District of California has played a fundamental role in California's history. From developing the agriculture industry, to shaping our civil and natural resource laws, the 19th District's cities are models for emerging communities across the country. I am honored to represent this district and to have been a lifelong resident of Mariposa County. Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the Sesquicentennial of the Golden State: California.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I want to join in commemorating California's 150th year as a State. Our diversity and the pioneering spirit of our people should be clear to anyone who visits the communities in Kern and Tulare Counties in my Congressional District, the 21st.

While the image other Americans have of California is often that of beautiful beaches, high tech industries and outstanding sports teams, the real California stands out when anyone visits Kern and Tulare. These are rural counties where families have built some of the nation's best farm businesses—dairy, cotton, table grapes, oranges, almonds and pistachio nuts. The California oil industry is centered on this area—over half the oil production in California comes from Kern County. At the same time, national public lands, including wilderness areas, provide some of the finest opportunities for recreation anywhere in the United States.

If someone wants to see how Californians have continued to pursue new ideas, how they

work and how they have built strong communities around the use of natural resources and high technology, they ought to come out and meet with my friends in Kern and Tulare Counties.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent the beautiful Central Coast of California and to celebrate the 150th anniversary of California's admission to the Union.

The 22nd Congressional District lies on California's Central Coast and is considered one of the most beautiful areas in the United States. The district includes Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties and features a spectacular coastline and majestic mountains. It offers a unique mix of major cities and small towns, bountiful vineyards, farms and ranches, and five highly esteemed colleges and universities.

The Central Coast has a long history which embraces the experiences of Spanish explorers and missionaries, the Chumash Indians, a warm climate and a diverse blend of wildlife. One small town is named Los Osos, or the Valley of the Bears, for the grizzly bears that were once discovered by the explorers and missionaries.

In 1772, Father Junipero Serra, established one of the first missions in the state, the Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa because of the region's unmatched beauty and natural resources. Known as the "Jewel of the Central Coast," San Luis Obispo is host to a variety of natural wonders, including 80 miles of pristine Pacific Ocean coastline, rolling green hills, and fresh blue lakes.

Also known for its rich Spanish heritage, Santa Barbara is home to the "Queen of Missions," an 18th century Spanish-style mission, after which much of the city's architecture and style has been modeled. In fact, this cultural gift is celebrated each year with a week-long "Fiesta," or "Old Spanish Days," featuring authentic food, music, and dance.

People from around the world make the Central Coast, my District, their vacation destination. I am proud to call it my home.

Happy anniversary California!

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the sesquicentennial of California and the 23rd Congressional District of California's role in the Golden State's past, present and future.

Long before California was admitted as the 31st state of the Union, Ventura County was home to Native Americans and Europeans. Father Junipero Serra founded one of his missions in Ventura, an area already known to the Chumash for its great fishing and abundant flora.

As California progressed through the 1800s and early 20th Century, so did Ventura County. First the stage coaches and then the railroad connecting Los Angeles to San Francisco came over and through the Santa Susana Pass, snaking along the Simi Valley, and on out to the coast. Many who passed through Ventura County were captured by the golden hills and lush soil. They stayed and raised cattle, planted apricots and walnuts, citrus trees and avocados.

Or, they harvested the soil in other ways. Black gold is also among Ventura County's riches, and you can actually see oil seeping out of the soil today as you drive up Highway 150 between Santa Paula and Ojai, and in other parts of the county.

When Hollywood began to blossom in the Los Angeles hills, Ventura County became a

prime film location. Fort Apache with John Wayne, Columbia's Jungle Jim series with Johnny Weissmuller, and TV shows such as The Adventures of Rin Tin Tin and Sky King were filmed at the Corriganville Movie Ranch.

Movie stars also made their home here, and many still do. Ojai is world-renowned for its arts community.

California's aerospace industry also found a home and a skilled labor force in the 23rd Congressional District. The space shuttle's main engines were designed by Rocketdyne and tested at its Santa Susana Field Laboratory, as were the engines for the Apollo and other space missions.

Much has changed in 150 years, but much remains the same. Agriculture is still Ventura County's number one industry, although it is now shipped throughout the world from Ventura County's very own port of entry, the Port of Hueneme. One of the country's two Seabee bases is in Ventura County, and the Navy's test firing range for the Pacific Fleet is here.

But Ventura County also is helping to lead California and the nation into a better future. Technological and biomedical firms, led by Amgen, have sprouted up along the 101 corridor. With the opening of California State University, Channel Islands, in 2002, high-tech firms will find yet another reason to locate here. And, the school's teaching college will help the nation fulfill its commitment to our children.

Mr. Speaker, California is a state comprised of visionary people with diverse backgrounds but with a common goal to succeed. Its future remains bright for another 150 years.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I join my 51 colleagues from the Great State of California to pay tribute to its 150th Statehood Anniversary and to the 24th Congressional District, which I represent.

From East to West, the 24th runs from Sherman Oaks, America's best-named city, to Thousand Oaks, through the Las Virgenes area to Malibu. It includes thriving business centers in the western San Fernando Valley and one of California's and the nation's most treasured natural and recreational resources, the Santa Monica Mountains.

The Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area is the most-often visited unit of our National Park System. Some 33 million American's visit her trails and beaches, some of the most beautiful in the world, every year. Most impressive is its location. The Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area is just a few-minutes drive from the major population centers of Los Angeles—its is our nation's largest urban park.

The residents of the Malibu and Las Virgenes areas are neighbors to this extraordinary resource. It is truly a special place to live.

The San Fernando Valley, part of the City of Los Angeles, is itself a large-sized city, with 1.4 million residents. If it were a city of its own, the San Fernando Valley would be the 6th largest U.S. city. It is richly diverse and a great community to live and work in. Proudly, it would be by far the safest of America's 10 largest cities.

Thousand Oaks, a community of more than 100,000 people, is also a wonderful place to work and live. It is an impressive community and is also home to some of my district's most distinguished employers, including the biotechnology giant, Amgen.

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, I believe my district has the best of everything, and so does my state. I am proud to serve the residents of the 24th District of California.

Again, I wish California a happy 150th birthday.

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I stand today with my fellow delegates in celebration of the Sesquicentennial of the State of California.

California was admitted to the Union 150 years ago as the Nation's 31st state. Since that time, California has grown dramatically. This state, once known as part of the "Wild West," has now become a vast metropolitan region of business, enterprise and entertainment.

I represent the 25th district of California, which consists of three major areas: the Antelope Valley, the northwest San Fernando Valley and the Santa Clarita Valley. Each of these areas has contributed a great deal to the heritage of our state.

The Antelope Valley was first settled in 1886 by 50 to 60 families of Swiss and German descent. Desiring to reside in California, these families were told to travel until they saw palm trees. Arriving in the Antelope Valley, they mistook the numerous Joshua trees for palm trees and settled, naming their new town Palmenthal. This name was eventually changed to that of the current city, Palmdale.

The Antelope Valley has often been referred to as the Aerospace Capital of the United States. U.S. Air Force Plant 42, in Palmdale, was the birthplace of the B-1 and B-2 Bombers, the SR-71 Blackbird, the space shuttle and the next generation space shuttle—the X-33. Also, the Boeing Co., Northrop-Grumman, and Lockheed-Martin maintain production facilities here. The Antelope Valley's largest city, Lancaster, is home to a first-class performing arts theater and a popular minor league baseball team, the Lancaster Jethawks.

In the 1930s and 1940s, the San Fernando Valley was known as the "Horse Capital of California" because many movie stars would come in from Hollywood to ride horses and enjoy the slower rural pace of life. Even today, in the smaller communities, such as Chatsworth, it is not unusual to see horses tied to the hitching post out back of the Los Toros Mexican Restaurant or the Cowboy Palace Saloon.

Since then the Valley has grown to become a major economic powerhouse in the Southern California area, home to more than 1 million people. Even the powerful Northridge Earthquake that hit on January 17, 1994, could not keep the Valley down. Residents of the Valley pulled together to rebuild their homes and the roads. It is now poised to become a city in and of itself.

The Santa Clarita Valley, located in between the San Fernando and Antelope Valleys, has made many contributions to the history of both California and the United States. For thousands of years, the Valley served as a major migration route for Native American groups as they traveled between the coast and the interior valleys and the great eastern deserts. This is the location of the first documented discovery of gold in California; the oldest existing oil refinery in the world; the first commercial oil field in California; the third-longest railroad tunnel in the world at its completion in 1876; and it is the location of one of the last "treat train robberies" in the United States.

In the 1920s, William S. Hart and Tom Mix used the Santa Clarita Valley to create the traditional Western film. The Western film industry continued growing through the decades with actors such as Gary Cooper, Roy Rogers, John Wayne and others. Our quaint little valley created the ideal background for great Westerns such as the "Lone Ranger," "Wyatt Earp," "Annie Oakley," "Gunsmoke" and many more.

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, the 25th district has played a vital role in California's livelihood. I am honored to represent this district and to have been a life-long resident of the Golden State. From the days of the Gold Rush, to the current times of the Silicon Valley, California has always had a major impact on U.S. history and the economy. Please join me today in celebrating the Sesquicentennial of this great state.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 150th birthday of the Great State of California, and to pay tribute to California's 26th Congressional District, which I am honored to represent in Congress. The 26th District is located in the Northeast San Fernando Valley and consists of the Golden State and Hollywood Freeway corridors of the Valley, proceeding as far west as Van Nuys and the San Diego Freeway.

Its history was recounted, with some creative license, in the movie Chinatown. Civic leaders encouraged city engineer William Mulholland to build a huge aqueduct from the Owens Valley to give Los Angeles water, and, in 1915, got the city to annex most of the Valley, large tracts of which they had already purchased.

In addition to many neighborhoods of Los Angeles, the 26th District takes in the small independent city of San Fernando, which is home to the beautiful Mission San Fernando, Rey de Espana. This historic building was established by Frey Fermin Francisco De Lasuen on September 8, 1797 as one of a chain of missions built to convert the native peoples to Christianity and to consolidate Spanish power along the coast of California. The Mission Church is an exact replica of the original church, which was built between 1804 and 1806. The walls of the church are seven feet thick at the base and five feet thick at the top. The material used was adobe brick, and those who built it were primarily the native peoples, who were called the Gabrielinos or the Tongva.

During the 1950s and 1960s, the 26th District was home to Holiday Lake at Hansen Dam, one of the most popular spots in the entire San Fernando Valley for family outings. On weekends, the lake was filled with swimmers and boaters and the shores teemed with picnics and games. But in 1969 and again in 1980, floods brought in millions of tons of sand, gravel and silt to Hansen Dam, transforming the beautiful 130-acre lake into a swamp. With the demise of the lake, the other parts of the park fell into disrepair.

By the 1980's, the closing of the lake became a depressing symbol of overall neglect in this low- to middle-income area. From the day I came to Congress, its restoration was one of my highest priorities. In 1999, a fishing lake opened to paddle boats and rowboats and a swimming lake opened at Hansen Dam, making this area once again a central recreational area for Valley families.

The 26th District was hard hit by the recession of the early 1990s. Many workers em-

ployed at nearby defense plants lost their jobs in the post-Cold War downsizing, while others were laid off in August 1992 when the General Motors plant located in the heart of the District in Van Nuys shut its doors. The magnitude of unemployment was dramatically illustrated in 1993, when a job fair held at the vacant GM site drew thousands of people.

Today, the worst of that economic crisis seems to be over. Unemployment in the area is down, as it is throughout Los Angeles County, and a major commercial/manufacturing development is rising where the GM plant once stood. In addition, the 26th District continues to be home to a variety of manufacturing facilities.

The Northridge earthquake of January 17, 1994 had its epicenter just west of the 26th and destroyed or damaged many homes, stores, factories and office buildings. In fact, the building that housed the 26th District Office was among those that suffered damage so extensive that it had to be torn down following the quake. A section of Interstate 405 within the District collapsed, a gas leak started fires that consumed 70 homes in Sylmar and an oil line exploded in San Fernando (where the quake flattened 63 homes and damaged another 835.) After extensive rebuilding and retrofitting, however, virtually all vestiges of the damage have been repaired.

In the last 150 years, the San Fernando Valley has changed from an empty open stretch of land into a busy metropolis, filled with houses and businesses, office towers, shopping centers, subdivisions and warehouse buildings. The 26th District is home to the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, which presents the annual Emmy Awards. Among the notable alumni of the District are actor Robert Redford, who attended Van Nuys High School, and rock 'n' roll star Ritchie Valens, of Pacoima.

Mr. Speaker, California's 26th District is one of the fastest growing areas of Los Angeles. I am very proud to represent its citizens in the United States House of Representatives. I ask my colleagues to join the California Delegation today in celebrating the sesquicentennial of the Golden State—California.

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, located just minutes from downtown Los Angeles, the 27th District of California has an identity as colorful as the roses that adorn the floats of the locally produced Tournament of Roses Parade. The district sits between the Verdugo and San Gabriel Mountains and encompasses the Foothill communities of Glendale, Burbank, Pasadena, South Pasadena, San Marino, Sunland, Tujunga, La Canada, La Crescenta, Altadena and a small portion of Los Angeles.

The district boasts distinctive neighborhoods, a rich history and a vibrant cultural scene. The ethnic diversity of the district is one of its greatest assets and includes long time White, African-American and Hispanic communities along side growing numbers of Koreans, Filipinos and the nation's largest Armenian community. Another distinction is the Spanish heritage reflected in the abundant mission-style architecture and landscaping that can be found throughout the district.

Every New Year's Day, millions of Americans tune in to see rose covered floats make their way down the streets of Pasadena in the Tournament of Roses Parade and to watch two of the nation's top college football teams compete in the Rose Bowl. Pasadena is also

the home of Cal Tech, one of the nation's premier research institutions where the scientists and engineers work together with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory on behalf of NASA to devise the latest techniques in space exploration.

A few miles away, there is a different kind of creativity at work in the many studios that employ writers, set designers, actors and directors who create America's favorite movies and television shows. The 27th District is home to Warner Brothers Studios, Walt Disney Studios and numerous small entertainment companies. In fact even Jay Leno works on his "Tonight Show" from NBC Studios located in downtown Burbank.

It is an honor for me to represent the 27th District of California in Congress and to join with my colleagues in celebrating the Sesquicentennial Anniversary of our great state.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, the San Gabriel, Pomona and Walnut Valleys are home to 17 cities and other communities in northeastern Los Angeles County. It is home to the San Gabriel Mountains and the Angeles National Forest—the most visited part of our national forest system. It's one of the few places in America where you can stand in warm and comfortable 90-degree weather and look up at a beautiful, snowcapped mountain such as Mount Baldy.

Dating from the early days of Spanish settlement in California, my district was home to many ranchos and other agricultural settlements. The complexion of the region changed little over many decades. The completion of the railroad from Chicago late in the 19th century unleashed growth that would eventually remake the entire region. With the advent of access to the east, the San Gabriel Valley began to boom. People flocked to the area in search of better job prospects and a more comfortable climate, and many small towns began to grow along the rail lines. Many of the towns and cities in the San Gabriel Valley today trace their roots to midwesterners who settled in the area beginning in the late 1800's. The traditions and values of those early citizens can still be found today in the small-town atmosphere in cities from one end of the valley to the other—even though the area is part of the sprawling Los Angeles megalopolis.

About the same time as the railroad completion, it was discovered that citrus fruits grew well in the region's rich soil and warm climate. The Valleys became leading producers of oranges and lemons, as groves blanketed the area. The citrus industry brought people and a booming economy which lasted until the second World War. After the war, the citrus groves gave way to housing tracts and growing suburbs. The area remains a diverse mix of residential areas and businesses, small and large. At the same time it is undergoing rapid demographic shifts as the diversity of California continues with the arrival new immigrants from China, India, Mexico and a host of other countries in Asia and Latin America and elsewhere.

Today the area is a blend of old and new. The San Gabriel Valley is home to showcase events such as the annual Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade and the Los Angeles County Fair. At the same time it is becoming a modern center for high technology. Firms headquartered in the region are at the cutting edge of engineering and construction, of internet commerce, of computer hardware and of

communications technology. The area is also home to the world renowned City of Hope National Medical Center in Duarte and a number of outstanding institutions of higher learning, including the Claremont Colleges. The vibrant economy is increasingly centered around technology and trade and our unique location at the edge of the Pacific Rim.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to represent the 29th Congressional District, which is a mecca of creative genius and one of the most celebrated districts in the country.

Whether you are enjoying the dazzling beaches, the celebrated Walk of Fame, the shopping on Rodeo Drive, or the magnificent Santa Monica Mountains, the beauty and diversity of the 29th Congressional District captivate the imagination like no other place on earth.

The 29th Congressional District is the world's entertainment capital. From the time the first movie studio was created in 1911, creative visionaries and artisans have flocked to this magical place. Today, thanks to the talent and energy of the thousands of people in the district, the entertainment production industry is the nation's largest exporter. International sales of widely popular American copyrighted works brings tens of billions of additional dollars to our economy each year.

The vision and inventive genius are also on display in the myriad other businesses throughout the district, including high tech firms, e-businesses, unique retail businesses and restaurants, and entrepreneurial start-ups. Not surprisingly, this community contains some of the best informed, technologically savvy, culturally progressive, and politically active people in the country.

Every year people travel from around the world to experience the magic of the 29th Congressional District, a singular place where people's biggest dreams can come true.

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you proudly to congratulate California, the Golden State, on 150 trailblazing and industrious years. It is often said that "as California goes, so goes the nation," for we are a diverse and forward-looking lot. Well, it might also be said that as Los Angeles—and specifically, the 30th CD—goes, so goes the nation, because we are positively among the most richly multi-lingual and multi-cultural communities in the world. I am proud to represent a district steeped in tradition with landmark communities such as: Koreatown, Chinatown, Eagle Rock, Atwater Village, Cypress Park, Glassel Park, Highland Park, Montecito Heights, El Sereno, Echo Park, Silver Lake, Mount Washington, Monterey Hills, Elysian Valley, Lincoln Heights, Boyle Heights, Mid-Wilshire, and East Hollywood. My district surrounds downtown to the North, West, and East, and contains landmark institutions known to everyone such as the Southwest Museum, Los Angeles City College, Occidental College, Children's Hospital and the Los Angeles County-University of Southern California Medical Center.

Specifically, my district contains over 573,000 people which, much like the city of Los Angeles, is home to a multiplicity of languages spoken. Like California, my district is now a majority-minority region where the number of ethnic minorities, including significant numbers of Latino and Asian American residents, actually form the majority of the total

population. In addition, there are large groups of Armenian, Jewish, Russian, and Egyptian Americans who have made their home in the 30th CD. More than half of my constituents were born in other countries, adding yet another dimension to this amazing mosaic of individuals.

Whether visiting Hollywood, attending a Dodger game, or enjoying the culture and cuisine of Koreatown and Chinatown, the 30th CD is a joy to represent. The 30th CD is a wonderful part of the great city of Los Angeles. Mr. Speaker, and my fellow colleagues, I enthusiastically applaud the hard work and contributions of my constituents in the 30th CD, along with those of the other 51 congressional districts who have helped make California what it was yesterday, what it is today, and what it will be in the future . . . a new frontier.

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pride to rise tonight to celebrate the State of California's sesquicentennial anniversary.

For 150 years, California has been a vital part of the United States. From the gold rush to the high-tech rush, California has been a beacon for millions of our fellow countrymen who have staked a claim in the American dream. The Golden State is truly the enchanted State, home to the entrepreneurial spirit that has built our great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, the history of the 31st congressional district located in the San Gabriel Valley mirrors, in many ways, the history and growth of California. My district is one of the most interesting and culturally diverse in the State. It includes parts of East Los Angeles and extends west to the foothills of the San Gabriel mountains, encompassing the cities of Monterey Park, Alhambra, San Gabriel, South San Gabriel, Rosemead, El Monte, South El Monte, Baldwin Park, Irwindale and Azusa.

The city of San Gabriel is home to the historic San Gabriel Mission, which was founded in 1771 by Franciscan monks. The mission served as a major catalyst in the growth of southern California. It was from the San Gabriel Mission that 11 families left on September 4, 1881, to found El Pueblo De La Reina De Los Angeles. Today, the San Gabriel is a bustling city, rich in culture and history.

El Monte, known as the end of the Sante Fe Trail was the place where people traveling between San Bernardino and Los Angeles stopped. Gold prospectors heading for the gold fields in northern California stopped here before continuing on their trek. El Monte is today the largest city in my district. El Monte is home to hard working families who take pride in their community and heritage.

Mr. Speaker, the city of Monterey Park, which was originally inhabited by Shoshone Indians, is at the turn of the 21st century the home for one of the largest Asian-American communities in the country. Chinese, Taiwanese, and Vietnamese shops, restaurants, and import centers are present throughout the city.

Mr. Speaker, all the cities in my district have their own distinctive character and unique place in the history of southern California. During the past 150 years, the San Gabriel Valley has played an important role in the development of the region, and the valley is indeed extremely well-positioned to continued as vital player in the prosperity of Los Angeles County and southern California.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues from the Golden State in celebrating California's 150 years of success and wishing my State continued prosperity.

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, my district lines run from the Harbor Freeway past Baldwin Hills to Culver City; my district includes USC; California Science Center, Natural History Museum of LA County; California African American Museum, Petersen Automotive Museum; and Sony Pictures Studio in Culver City.

Los Angeles was little more than a frontier town in the 1870s when members of the Methodist Episcopal Conference first sought to establish a university in the region. Today, the University of Southern California (USC), located in the culturally and ethnically diverse 32nd Congressional District, is, arguably, one of the country's most preeminent international centers of learning, enrolling more than 28,000 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students. It ranks in the top ten percent of major research universities in the United States.

The 32nd Congressional District is also home to Sony Pictures Studios in Culver City, a major employer in the district, and formerly the home of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (MGM), one of the cradles of the motion picture industry in the state. The 32nd also claims a great deal of movie history, including the little known fact that the much heralded 1939 blockbuster movie, "Gone With the Wind," was filmed at the historic David O. Selznick Studios, which was located in Culver City.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of the 150th anniversary of the statehood of the great state of California.

On this historic occasion, is it fitting that we taking a moment to observe and celebrate the diverse and distinct cities and communities throughout our state.

The district that I am proud to represent and call home is the 33rd Congressional District of California.

The 33rd Congressional district is a vibrant, diverse area encompassing metropolitan downtown Los Angeles, including Boyle Heights, Little Tokyo, Pico Union, and portions of Chinatown, Filipinotown, Koreatown, and Westlake. The suburban portions of the district include the cities of Bell, Bell Gardens, Commerce, Cudahy, Huntington Park, Maywood, South Gate, and Vernon and parts of East Los Angeles, Walnut Park and Florence.

The 33rd Congressional district houses the civic center of Los Angeles, including the area's courthouses, Los Angeles City Hall, the offices of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles Unified School District, Metropolitan Transit Authority, and Immigration and Naturalization Service.

In addition, the 33rd Congressional district boasts a multitude of cultural attractions and resources. The Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Shrine Auditorium, Latino Museum, Chinese American Museum, Japanese American National Museum, and the Museum of Contemporary Art are located in my congressional district. In addition, the new Our Lady of the Angeles Cathedral is being built in the center of downtown Los Angeles.

Our community also reflects the rich history of the state of California. The district is home to such historic sites such as Union Station, Olvera Street Plaza and the Broadway theater district. In fact, on September 4th of this year,

the city of Los Angeles celebrated its 219th birthday.

The residents of 33rd Congressional district reflect the wonderful diversity of our State. There is a mixture of newly-arrived immigrants families and a strong, established Hispanic community. Ethnic enclaves, like Chinatown, Koreatown, and Japantown, house specialty stores and restaurants that cater to the area's thriving Asian community.

Recently, the 33rd Congressional district proudly hosted the Democratic National Convention. The convention gave Los Angeles and its residents an opportunity to showcase our city to the hundreds of thousands of visitors as well as the millions who watched the proceedings on television. The DNC took place at the recently-opened Staples Center, which also serves as the home for the Los Angeles Kings, Lakers and the Clippers.

I am extremely proud of all that the 33rd Congressional district has to offer and delighted to sing its praises on the 150th birthday of our great state, the State of California.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, on this Sesquicentennial Anniversary of California's admission to the Union, I am filled with tremendous pride and a deep sense of honor to represent the people of my Thirty-fourth Congressional District, composed of the cities and communities in the Southeast and San Gabriel Valley areas of Los Angeles County including the City of Industry, East Los Angeles, Hacienda Heights, La Puente, Montebello, Norwalk, Pico Rivera, Santa Fe Springs, and Whittier.

Our district is a part of Southern California that is rich in diversity and historical significance from the earliest days through the modern era. In the heart of the 34th district, is the home of Pio Pico, the last governor of Mexican California before the American takeover in 1846. One of California's most remarkable historical figures, he witnessed and helped shape nearly a century of California history. Governor Pico's ancestry includes a mixture of ethnicities, including Mexican, African, Indian and Italian. He built a mansion on what is now a three-acre state park located in Whittier, that was once the headquarters of his sprawling 8,891-acre ranch. Twice the governor of the Mexican State, his life spanned a remarkable era that saw the Spanish, Mexican and American flags fly over his native Alta California.

Early in the American era, Whittier also became the home to a vibrant community of Quakers. It was from this community in a later generation that our Thirty-seventh President of the United States, Richard M. Nixon, was educated at Whittier College. After service in the United States Navy during World War II, he returned to the area to begin his political career and was elected to Congress in 1946.

San Gabriel Mission founded by Blessed Junipero Serra, a Franciscan missionary from Mallorca, Spain, administered the vast lands composing what we know as the "Los Angeles basin," and which were later parceled out into sprawling ranchos to land-grantees during the Spanish and Mexican eras. Following the rancho era when cattle was the principal economic endeavor, these fabulously fertile lands brought forth rich agricultural commodities including citrus, avocado and walnut groves, bean fields and dairy land. Eventually major oil reserves were discovered in what is now Santa Fe Springs and Montebello, which continue producing to this day.

At the end of World War II the sudden demand in housing for returning veterans from throughout the country desiring to raise their young families and populate the massive economic engine of industrial Los Angeles attracted developers to these peaceful and pleasant locales. New homes, schools and churches were built and soon these local communities began to incorporate into new cities. All of these communities share a proud history of the development of the "Golden State" and each has a unique and special historical heritage.

California is indeed the greatest state, in population, economy, diversity and worldwide cultural influence. Its magnificent coastal areas, majestic mountain ranges, fabulously fertile agricultural valleys, vast pristine deserts, bespeak an unequaled wealth of environmental diversity. The Great Golden State was, is and will always be the treasure chest of the American experience renowned the world over. For every Californian, native and immigrant, our motto "Eureka" says it all "I have found it!"

Put another candle on our birthday cake, we are 150 years old today? God bless California. Felicidades California?

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the 150th anniversary of California's statehood. On September 9, 1850, California was admitted to the Union as the nation's 31st state. Much has changed over the last 150 years, but California still remains one of the world's natural treasures.

At the time of California's entry into the Union, the population for Los Angeles numbered 3,530. As Los Angeles developed and expanded, so did the South Bay. I am proud that the natural beauty of the South Bay remained unchanged over the last 150 years. The shoreline is our livelihood, as California is the gateway to the West.

We are rich in cultural diversity with a population of all races and creeds from throughout the world. California's natural resources are numerous, with some of the most breathtaking landscape in the world. From agriculture to e-commerce, we are a leader in all areas of business. California's 150 years as a state embody the American experience, one of the growth and vision.

I congratulate all Californians on this milestone. We have much to celebrate. The state of California is a model to the nation. I hope the next 150 years are as dynamic as the first 150.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise with great pride because September 9th marked the 150th anniversary of California's admission to the union. The United States Postal Service is reissuing its California Statehood stamp to honor this event. And all of the 52 members of the California delegation have come together to pay tribute to an important part of our history in the United States.

As the Representative of the 37th District of California and long time resident of this great state, I am happy to join this effort to pay homage to our historical leaders who had the wisdom to form one union of the United States.

My district in particular has made wonderful contributions to the state of California over the past 150 years. The South Bay area has a long and distinguished history that is unique and embraces the essence of Southern California.

The city of Carson has a strong Spanish presence and is home to Dominguez Rancho Adobe, built in 1826. The Goodyear blimp "Eagle" also calls Carson home. Goodyear's blimp logs over 400,000 air miles per year and have adorned the skies of Southern California as a very visible corporate symbol of the tire and rubber company.

The Los Angeles community of Watts is home to the Watts Towers. Created by Simon Rodia, the towers rise over one hundred feet tall. Composed of structural steel rods and circular hoops connected by spokes, the towers incorporate a sparkling mosaic of found materials including pottery, seashells, and glass. Rodia's house, destroyed by fire in 1957, resided within the complex.

Declared hazardous by the city of Los Angeles, the towers were threatened with demolition until an engineer's stress test proved them structurally sound. They have since been designated a cultural monument.

The city of Long Beach has a past deep in Spanish history. Created by a land grant given to soldier Manuel Nieto, the city was planned out in 1882 as Willmore City by developer Willman Willmore, and a new town began forming along the coast. Long Beach serves as home to the historic Queen Mary.

Partially adjacent to Long Beach is the community of Harbor Gateway and serves as the entrance to the Los Angeles port area. People from around the world visit and call the South Bay area home. I am proud to call the 37th Congressional District home.

Happy Anniversary California!

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate California's 150th anniversary of statehood, this is a good time to reflect on the vast change that has occurred in this former Spanish Colony. Since California was admitted into the Union as the nation's 31st state on September 9, 1850, the state has grown to become the world's fifth largest economy.

California's history before and after statehood includes vital contributions by Hispanics and Native Americans. One of the most important has been the system of 21 missions founded by Father Junipero Serra that began in San Diego and extended over 600 miles to the north. The contributions of the missions in education and in producing clothing and food were integral in California's early development.

California has often been referred to as a bellwether state—a place where people challenge the assumptions of the present to give America a glimpse of the future. This is fitting for a state settled by far-sighted, brave individuals willing to risk everything for a second chance. Americans and others from around the world have seen California as a place to seek a better life. When Los Angeles was founded in 1781, its residents included people of European, African, and Native American ethnic backgrounds. Chinese immigrants built railroads and agricultural infrastructure in the 19th Century. In the 1880's the first direct rail connection between Southern California and the East brought hundreds of thousands to the Southland.

In the 38th District, the historical attractions include Rancho Los Cerritos, an 1884 colonial style-adobe that was once a working cattle ranch, and Rancho Los Alamitos Historic Ranch and Gardens, which was built in 1806. The port of Long Beach is home to the historic *Queen Mary*, once called the Queen of the Atlantic and arguably the most famous ship in

history. The *Queen Mary* began its maiden voyage in 1936, served as Winston Churchill's seaborne headquarters, and played a part in the major Allied campaign of the Second World War. Long Beach is also home to the Boeing C-17 military transport plant and the Sea Launch base that sends satellites into space. Additionally, the Apollo space capsules and the space shuttles were built at the NASA plant in the city of Downey.

This 150th anniversary celebration of California's statehood is as much an occasion to look forward to the future as to reflect on the past. If we live up to our state's long tradition of progress, diversity, and national and international leadership, California can look forward to another 150 years of success.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the 150th anniversary of the founding of the golden State of California.

From the port of Long Beach to the North Orange County region, the 39th Congressional District is one of the many examples of the state's remarkable diversity. This area was once thriving farmland, rich in oranges, lemons, avocados, and walnuts. Agriculture was the first important industry. With orange groves being so abundant, Orange County was named after the fruit.

Many industrious individuals flocked to this area, like Walter Knott, who began the Knott legacy in Buena Park. He used to sell jams and jellies at a roadside stand. Mrs. Knott began serving up fried chicken dinners to those waiting in the lines, and they soon added a restaurant to accommodate more people.

Mr. Knott wanted to build something as a tribute to the Old West and the pioneers who paved the way. The idea of a ghost town was born, which eventually evolved into the Knott's Berry Farm amusement park. Its original purpose was to educate and entertain and it still does today.

The district has undergone tremendous growth since the days of the orange groves. The neighboring metropolis of Los Angeles burst at the seams and the population spilled across the rural valley. In its wake, the farmlands were replaced by an urban landscape of homes, shopping malls, and industrial parks.

Today, Orange County is home to a vast number of major industries, the most prominent being the high-tech, telecommunications, and entertainment industries.

Throughout its existence, this area has continued to thrive. No other environment is more conducive to innovation and creativity than this sun-blessed region of Southern California.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, as California celebrates the 150th anniversary of statehood, I would like to share with my colleagues a little of the history and special characteristics of the 40th Congressional District—the largest in the state—which I am proud to represent. That history stretches long before California became a state—and indeed long before the history of the West was recorded.

The 40th district stretches from the peaks of the Eastern Sierra Nevada to the fast-growing cities of the San Bernardino Valley, on the eastern edge of the Southern California urban area. The heart of the district is the Mojave Desert, which has long been known as a gateway to the Pacific Coast since the Mohave Indians forged a trail west from the Colorado River to trade with coastal tribes. The route eventually was followed by the Union Pacific

and Santa Fe railroads, and then by Route 66, the Mother Road that is still celebrated by tens of thousands of people at events in Barstow and San Bernardino.

The 40th Congressional District today boasts the highest point and lowest point in the "lower 48" states. Mount Whitney, at 14,495 feet, is the highest peak along the towering mountain chain known as the Sierra Nevada. The lowest point at 282 feet below sea level, is the Badwater area of the desolately beautiful Death Valley National Park. The two points are among many that make the district an outdoor recreation paradise. Other desert parks include Joshua Tree National Park and Mojave National Preserve. The Owens Valley, where the mountains meet the desert, is the gateway to such nationally known treasures as Sequoia National Park and the Mammoth Lakes ski resorts.

Southern California residents know that they can find world-class skiing and summer hiking trails much closer to home, in the 40th District's San Bernardino Mountains, which provide a snow-capped backdrop to the sunny Southland. Tucked under those mountains are some of the nation's fastest growing communities.

Mr. Speaker, the 40th Congressional District makes a huge contribution to our nation's defense as the home of the Army's National Training Center at Fort Irwin, the Marine Corps Air-Command Combat Center at Twentynine Palms, Edwards Air Force Base and China Lake Naval Air Warfare Center. Two recently closed installations—George Air Force and Norton Air Force Bases—are being transformed into new commercial air hubs to handle the region's burgeoning air cargo and passenger needs.

The 40th Congressional District has a wealth of universities and colleges, including fast-growing California State University, San Bernardino, the prestigious University of Redlands, and Loma Linda University and Medical Center, known nationally for its infant heart transplant program and for the first proton beam accelerator used in ground-breaking cancer treatment.

Mr. Speaker, from the discovery and mining of gold and silver to the training ground for Gen. George S. Patton's World War II tank brigades, the 40th Congressional District's history is intertwined with California's and the nation's. It is an honor to represent a district that contains such a wealth of resources, and such hard-working, forward-looking constituents.

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Sesquicentennial of the great State of California's admittance to the Union. This event took place on September 9, 1850 and made California the 31st State of the United States of America.

The 41st District, which I represent, is part of what makes California special. It is centered in the area that is known as the Inland Empire on the point where Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Orange Counties come together. Decades ago, it was home to mostly orange groves, farmers and dairymen. But during the 1980's, the Inland Empire developed into a booming economic region as a result of the expansion California experienced in that time.

This district is home to many terrific cities including Chino, Chino Hills, Upland Montclair, Walnut, Diamond Bar, Brea, Rowland Heights, Ontario, Pomona, Yorba Linda and Placentia.

The international airport in Ontario is quickly becoming a major airport hub for passengers and cargo heading overseas. Pomona is the host of the Los Angeles County Fair each year. Yorba Linda is the birthplace and resting place for former President, Richard Nixon, and home to the Nixon Presidential Library. The 41st District is also the home of California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. The Collins School of Hospitality Management at Cal Poly Pomona is considered to be among the top ten hospitality management schools in the United States.

I am very proud to be a resident and the Representative of the 41st District of California. It is with great pride that I recognize the Sesquicentennial of California, the greatest State in the Union.

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, this year we celebrate California's 150th anniversary of the state's admission to the union. The 42nd Congressional district of California has undergone many changes over the years.

For many years San Bernardino was the gateway to the Los Angeles Basin, situated on flat land where the route through the twisting, windy Cajon Pass took passengers on the Santa Fe Railroad and motorists on U.S. 66 from the hot and dusty high desert to the greener, tree-lined basin.

There were orange groves around the little railroad towns and vineyards to the west; this was an agricultural zone until World War II, when Henry J. Kaiser built the West Coast's first major steel mill between the Santa Fe and Southern Pacific lines in Fontana, just west of San Bernardino.

In the 1950's Ray Kroc traveled to California upon hearing about the McDonald's hamburger stand in San Bernardino running eight Multimixers at a time. Kroc had never seen so many people served so fast. Kroc pitched the idea of opening up several restaurants to Dick and Mac McDonald. Today the restaurant is an international chain.

In the 1990's the region weathered military base closures and realignments, as well as aerospace firm downsizing. But we have rebuilt, and today the Inland Empire has a thriving economy and is projected to be one of the fastest-growing areas in the United States.

Today the region has great strengths—We have inexpensive land, extensive transportation systems, including trucking hubs, a large employment pool, low unemployment, strong growth in construction, distribution, and manufacturing industries, and 23 colleges and universities, which are engaged in cutting edge research, including CE-CERT at U.C. Riverside, which is doing research on automotive technologies of the future.

IVDA/San Bernardino International Airport is poised to turn Norton Air Force Base into a high-tech incubator, through legislation I authored to provide tax incentives to businesses (AB 3, 1998). We hope to create 15,000 high-tech jobs in our region through incentives as a result of that legislation, such as 15 year net operating loss carryover, sales and use tax credits, expedited permit processing, and the creation of local incentives for employers.

We are also working to create a regional partnership with Orange County to make San Bernardino International Airport viable for businesses.

California and the Inland Empire will be a hub for the commercial space business and industries of the future. High technology will

be the key, in this decade and in the next 150 years of our state.

Scientists are working on advances that push the frontiers of science, such as new devices that can store the content of the Library of Congress on a computer the size of a sugar cube, and robots no bigger than a thumbnail. As a member of the Science Committee, I have been pleased to support these efforts.

This research will have very real benefits for California and the Inland Empire in terms of job creation and economic growth. If anyone has any doubts, look at the Internet. The Internet started as a federal research tool, and is responsible for one of the longest economic booms in history.

In addition to the above initiatives, we will continue to work on projects such as completing the Alameda Corridor, making it a route that ultimately could link us with Mexico; bringing high speed rail to the Inland Empire, and creating an Inland Empire distribution center. We are building Tech Park, a 120-acre business park to house high tech businesses.

We are also working to revitalize downtown San Bernardino with a new courthouse, through SB 35 (Baca), which provides local funding, and we have been working on federal funds.

In summary, it has been a long road from the hot and dusty origins of our area to the thriving high-tech future. But as our state celebrates its 150th anniversary, we have many changes to look back on. Our past achievements are filled with pride, our future promise is great.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with the whole of my delegation to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the great state of California joining the United States of America. As the 31st state to join the union, nobody at the time could have predicted the incredible breadth of agriculture, business, military prowess or diversity that California would and continues to contribute to the nation.

My own small corner of California, anything but small really, encompasses western Riverside County, including the cities of Riverside, Corona, Norco, Lake Elsinore and Murrieta. In fact, Riverside County is the fourth largest county in the state, stretching nearly 200 miles across and comprising over 7,200 square miles of fertile river valleys, low deserts, mountains, foothills and rolling plains. Between 1980 and 1990, the number of residents grew by over 76%, making Riverside the fastest-growing County in California. By 1992, the County was "home" to over 1.3 million residents—more than the entire population of 13 states, among them Maine, Nevada, Hawaii and New Hampshire.

Of course I would be lax in my position as the Representative to the 43rd Congressional District if I did not add that it is also the most impressive district in California. Founded in 1870 by John W. North and the Southern California Colony Association, the City of Riverside took off and has never looked back. In its infancy Riverside became known for its many citrus groves, palm lined avenues and wide array of subtropical shade. The region became famous for its citrus and horticultural industries that over time gave way to military and industrial growth, and education.

In fact, in 1907, Riverside became the home to the University of California Citrus Experiment Station, sponsoring wide-ranging research that greatly benefited agriculture in the

region. The site was established as a campus of the University of California fewer than 50 years later in 1954. Today, the University of California at Riverside has earned a reputation as one of the pre-eminent teaching and research institutes in the world.

Agriculture continues to be a cornerstone of UC Riverside as California continues as the nation's top agriculture state, a position it has held for more than 50 years. From Humboldt County in the north to Imperial County in the South, California agriculture is a blend of valleys, foothills, coastal areas and deserts where a bounty of superior agricultural products unmatched anywhere in the world grow.

My home district also offers up its beautiful architecture to those who visit. Its "Mediterranean image" derives from the many examples of fine architecture in the California Mission Revival and Spanish Colonial styles that grace its landscape. The best known example being the Historic Mission Inn, in the City of Riverside, which was built between 1902 and 1932 by Frank A. Miller and his partner Henry Huntington. Bette Davis and Humphrey Bogart were married there. Teddy Roosevelt was its first Presidential guest. Richard and Pat Nixon exchanged wedding vows at the Inn. Ronald and Nancy Reagan began their honeymoon in its Presidential Suite.

Mr. Speaker, the 43rd District has obviously seen rapid growth and change over the past 150 years. We are proud to join our other friends across California in celebrating our great fortune and success as a State. California is guaranteed to continue as cornerstone of agriculture, education and industry in the next 150 years to come. Happy Birthday California!

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, in many ways, California's 44th District represents the Golden State as a whole. Rich in its geographic, environmental and cultural diversity, this area within what is now known as the "Inland Empire," has a vibrant past and promising future. The district contains towering alpine peaks and forests, arid expanses of unforgiving desert, rich agricultural fields—even beaches at the great inland Salton Sea and on the banks of the mighty Colorado River. Today, this region has fulfilled the vision of early settlers and exceeded expectations of even the most optimistic boosters.

The 44th District was first home to the southern California's indigenous desert tribal people—the Cahuilla Indians. From the high mountain peaks of Mt. San Jacinto to the depths of the Salton Sink, these tribal bands lived in harmony with a sometimes harsh but amazingly rich environment. The Cahuilla culture is still a respected part of the current desert community, and their magnificent Indian Canyons stand as a testament to their sound stewardship of these native lands. The Cahuilla people welcomed the Spanish explorers who were the first westerners to travel deep into the southern deserts, sharing the trails and watering holes that meant the difference between life and death in the forbidding expanse.

Later, settlers from first Mexico and later the United States traveled to the region—most establishing rancheros and farms as the earliest economic enterprises. These hardy souls fought against unimaginable hardships to carve out a living in this arid and sometimes hostile environment. But, they persisted, and some thrived. When California was granted

statehood in 1850, the residents became U.S. citizens. By the late 1800's the railroads had become part of the landscape, transporting new arrivals to the coastal regions of southern California. Some never got that far, instead making their home in what is now Riverside County.

From the beginning, the Cahuilla people had recognized the restorative powers and healing benefits of the *agua caliente* or "hot waters" of the desert springs. Soon, residents and visitors made the pilgrimage to Palm Springs to soak in the hot springs and find comfort in the dry desert climate. Enterprising farmers in the Coachella Valley began raising dates, grapes and other crops that could withstand the dry conditions and often searing desert heat.

During the same period, the Hemet and San Jacinto Valley attracted farmers and ranchers to its rich and productive lands. Cattle ranches, citrus groves, and a variety of different types of produce thrived in this fertile valley. But, as in all of southern California, the need for a steady supply of water limited the agricultural growth of the entire region.

Today, most Americans would have a difficult time imagining the southern California of our not so distant past. The miracle that changed the landscape was the introduction of a reliable source of water for irrigation and development. Shortly after the turn of the century, that need resulted in the creation of the Salton Sea when the Colorado River breached the holding dikes that had been constructed to route fresh water for irrigation to the eastern Coachella Valley. With the creation of the Sea and the establishment of efficient irrigation systems the unthinkable happened. A once hostile desert became a rich agricultural center. And with the new political clout enjoyed by the southern California water districts and departments, eastern Riverside County found a dependable source of water for its residents and agricultural concerns.

As the population grew in southern California, so did the reputation of the Hemet/San Jacinto and Coachella Valleys. Hemet became a favored destination for those seeking space, fresh air and community. The area around Palm Springs became a favorite vacation spot for luminaries as varied as Albert Einstein and Errol Flynn. Hollywood discovered the desert resort region and flocked to Palm Springs for sun, tennis, bathing, and later, golf. The region thrived and the population grew fast. By the middle of the last century, Palm Springs had become world renowned as a vacation haven.

Following WWII, the growth in southern California continued at an unprecedented pace. The Inland Empire had not yet received its status as one of the fastest growing regions in the country, but, it was enjoying steady and significant population increases. Improved water delivery systems and infrastructure enabled the eastern Riverside County region to handle the rapid expansion. From a few sleepy desert towns, the Coachella Valley transformed itself into nine separate municipalities with nearly a quarter million residents—seemingly overnight. The communities of Hemet and San Jacinto, along with many smaller cities in the valley and pass region between the city of Riverside and the southern

deserts also grew. However, these communities had been established earlier as residential centers and their growth was not as dramatic. The city of Temecula and the surrounding countryside became a rich wine producing center, with several local wineries achieving international prominence.

As California celebrates its sesquicentennial, the Inland Empire and the 44th district have achieved an important place in the history and future of the Golden State. The growth continues, the economic expansion is strong, and the diversity of the people and the environment prevail. The history of this great state is made rich through the contributions of individuals too numerous to list here, but to the people who chose to make southeastern California home their stories and names are familiar. As the inscription on the Capitol Building in Sacramento, California, reads: Give me men to match my mountains; the people who built the communities of the 44th Congressional District reflect that greatness and grand vision. Today, as we honor the great state of California on the occasion of her 150th anniversary, we honor also the memory of all those who contributed to her story. I want to extend special recognition to the people of California's 44th district, past and present, who made their personal commitment to the Golden State.

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, when California was admitted as a state 150 years ago, Southern California paled in comparison to the northern part of the state, which was famous for the gold rush and the new City of San Francisco. The 45th Congressional District and surrounding areas hardly qualified even as a rural backwater, being made up primarily of swamps and cattle ranches. In the late 1800's farming gradually replaced ranching and spurred the conversion of coastal swamps and river flood plains into habitable land. Huntington Beach, which is today a booming city of over 200,000 people that forms the core of the 45th District, didn't even get its start until 1902, when a group of farmers and other investors decided to found "Pacific City" in an attempt to emulate the success of Atlantic City on the East Coast. This venture then got bought out by a group of Los Angeles businessmen headed by Henry Huntington, in whose honor the town was renamed when he brought his Pacific Electric Railway into town.

The area that became the 45th District gained in population as tourism, the oil industry, and world war each took their turn as a spur to local growth. Our area played a major role in winning World War II, serving as the site for both the Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station, which even today supplies a major portion of the Navy's firepower and the Santa Ana Army Airfield. This airfield was the staging ground for G.I.'s shipping to the war from around the country, and can be credited in and of itself as a major spur to Orange County's population growth as G.I.'s experienced the pleasant Southern California climate first hand and many moved their families there after the war. Although this huge airfield was decommissioned after the war, the land on which it sat was put to good use—it is now the site of John Wayne Airport, the Orange County Fairgrounds and Orange Coast College.

Huntington Beach has become known during the last half of the 20th Century as "Surf City," becoming the nation's prime area,

hosting the first U.S. Surfing Championships in 1959 and major national and international surfing events since then.

Just as with World War II, the Huntington Beach area played a major role in winning the Cold War, providing the home for much of the nation's aerospace industry. Famous corporate names from the past: Douglas Aircraft (later McDonnell Douglas) and North American Rockwell have come under the umbrella of the Boeing Corporation, which today is by far the region's largest employer and still plays a major role in producing aircraft, satellites and rockets for both our both our military and our nation's space program.

It's appropriate that an area so closely identified with our nation's freedom became the final destination for a majority of Vietnamese refugees escaping communism after the Vietnam War. The 45th District is home to Little Saigon, the heart of the largest concentration of Vietnamese people in the world outside of Vietnam.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent a district that represents our nation's finest traditions in not only serving our country in the cause of freedom, but also in knowing how to have a good time. The 45th District epitomizes my own personal motto—"Fighting for Freedom and Having Fun."

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to celebrate the sesquicentennial anniversary of statehood for the great state of California. For 12 years, I have had the privilege to represent the 47th Congressional district, which is nestled in the heart of Orange County. Our State was created out of territory ceded to the United States by Mexico in the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. It officially became the 31st State in 1850 with a population of 92,597.

Orange County was created in 1889, after residents of the southern part of then Los Angeles County felt they were not getting the attention they deserved from county officials and wanted a county seat nearer home. Santa Ana, which had grown recently due to the discovery of silver in the Santa Ana Mountains, was named the county seat.

Today, with a population of nearly 3 million people and an annual economic output of over \$110 billion, Orange County is one of the most successful and diverse hi-tech centers of commerce in the world. Its economy is larger than all but 31 nations in the world—ranking ahead of Israel, Portugal, and Singapore. Orange County's diverse population is larger than 20 states, and its economy is bigger than 25 states. It is one of California's top exporting regions, behind only Silicon Valley and Los Angeles, and tied with San Francisco. Orange County exports more than \$12 billion worth of goods each year, from computers to state-of-the-art medical equipment, biotechnology, and other ultra-sophisticated technological goods. In just the last three years, high-tech exports from Orange County companies have grown by 53 percent.

Orange County is home to some of the most beautiful beaches in the world, stretching for miles along the Pacific Ocean between Los Angeles and San Diego. The "Places Rated Almanac" has selected Orange County as the best place to live in the nation, ahead of more than 350 other metropolitan areas. Orange County is a national center for higher education. Universities and colleges in my district include the University of California, Irvine,

where I serve on the Advisory Board of the world-class Brain Imaging Center, and Chapman University, on whose Board of Trustees I serve. Orange County has also been home to the world-famous Festival of the Arts and Pageant of the Masters for 68 years. In addition, Laguna Beach, the southernmost point in my district, is a year-round haven for artists and craftsmen, and its entire coastline has been declared a "Marine Life Refuge" to protect and preserve the rich variety of marine life forms for all to observe and enjoy.

The Anaheim Angels baseball team and the Anaheim Mighty Ducks hockey team make their homes in my district. The Anaheim Pond, home of the Ducks, is also the second most active concert venue in America, behind only Madison Square Garden. Finally, Orange County is home to the Ronald Reagan Federal Courthouse, authorized in legislation I wrote as a member of the House Public Works Committee in 1992. Once again, it is with great pride that I stand here today to mark 150 years of prosperity and leadership for the great state of California, and to recognize Orange County's important role in our state's history and future success.

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to take a moment to recognize the great State of California. One hundred and fifty years ago, California became a part of the United States of America. On September 9, 1850, President Millard Fillmore signed a bill admitting California as the 31st State in the Union.

In the early 1800's, settlers very slowly filtered into California until 1848, when gold was discovered at Sutter's Mill. Suddenly, people from all over the world looking to strike it rich flooded through San Francisco. They traveled up the Sacramento River to the gold fields. It was this discovery of gold that hastened California's statehood.

In September 1849 a convention met at Monterey and adopted a state constitution. The constitution was approved by popular vote on November 13, and on December 15 the first legislature met at San Jose to create an unofficial state government. The Compromise Measures of 1850, a series of congressional acts passed during August and September 1850, admitted California as a free, or nonslave, state. On September 9, 1850, California became the 31st state in the Union. The state capital was moved successively from San Jose to Monterey, Vallejo, and Benicia. In 1854 it was located permanently at Sacramento.

The 48th District of California, which I represent, was created in 1982 after the 1980 Census. It has been described as the most agreeable climate in the continental United States. This district has the beautiful scenery, which is typical of California. The location occupies the southernmost portion of Orange County, the North County part of San Diego County and a small slice of Riverside County, the instant town of Temecula. It includes the seaside communities of San Clemente and San Juan Capistrano, where the swallows famously return every year. The well-known Old Spanish Mission at San Juan Capistrano is located in the quaint little town located above the shores of the Pacific, halfway between San Diego and Los Angeles.

Inland, there are the newer communities of Mission Viejo and Laguna Niguel; just south of Pendleton in San Diego County are Ocean-side and Vista. Farther inland amid the hills

are Fallbrook and, in Riverside County, Temecula, in the mid-1980s a corner-grocery town serving a vineyard district, now the center of an area with 100,000 people, mostly commuters to Orange County and Riverside attracted by low-priced homes and traditional values. Growth has been and continues to be a factor in this area of southern California.

California has a rich history. It is the 3rd largest state in area and the largest state in population. California has the largest population of Native Americans, a continuing growing Hispanic population and a large Asian population, all of which help California to lead the nation in cultural diversity. I am proud not only to represent this area in Congress, but also to be a resident of the wonderful state of California. I would like to wish a Happy Anniversary to the 31st State of America.

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, this is a great time to reflect on the greatness of our country. With California celebrating its 150th anniversary of the state's admission to the union, one automatically recalls that inspiring phrase, "Go West, young man!" and the beginning of our trail blazing history. As Californians, we can rejoice in the adventurous and rugged spirit of our forefathers and be grateful that these men and women were willing to risk life and limb for a new and unknown life in California. Just envisioning those covered wagons poised on the pinnacle of the Sierra Mountains and looking down on the promised land brings a shiver to my soul. Those were truly trying times and those first California settlers were truly brave people.

I am proud of my roots—my father is from the East, specifically Alabama, and my mother is from Northwest Australia. However, my family and I are grateful for those brave spirits who ventured from the East because we now have the opportunity to benefit from their risk and foresight.

San Diego is the jewel of California, and I have had the privilege of representing one of the most beautiful and inspiring districts in our nation. San Diego is the area where Father Junipero Serra set up one of the first missions in California. This early history can be explored in the preserve of Old Town San Diego.

Presently, the residents of San Diego relish in telling all of their friends and relatives outside of Southern California about the incredible weather they enjoy year round—70 degrees and no humidity! California's 49th congressional district boasts such natural wonders as the sensual coastline from its southernmost point in Imperial Beach to the rocky cliffs of Torrey Pines' nature preserve. The 49th also holds in its stead the tranquil, deep waters of the San Diego Bay, which is home to Sea World as well as large naval bases that rival the ports of Hawaii—North Island Naval Air Station and the 32nd Street Naval Station. With San Diego being blessed with both an awesome shoreline and an incredible bay, residents and tourists alike can enjoy surfing and sunning on the beach or sailing and kayaking on the bay all year round.

An event that I enjoy the most is Sand Castle Days held every August in my hometown of Imperial Beach. This is a world-renown event that gathers the best amateur and professional sand castle designers from around the country and the world in the tiny Southern California beach town. Every year, we are surprised by the intricate designs created by the simple substance of sand.

If cultural arts are on your agenda, San Diego has set the stage for such incredible Broadway productions as "Damn, Yankees" and a revision of "Hair" from creative playhouses like the La Jolla Playhouse and the Old Globe Theater in Balboa Park. Each September for a weekend, the streets of downtown San Diego come alive with the hip and grooving sounds of homegrown musical groups as well as famous, well-established rock bands during a phenomenal music festival known as "Street Scene." The 49th also has a diverse collection of famous art museums—from the modern art of the La Jolla Contemporary Museum of Art to world classics at the San Diego Museum of Art or American artists at the Timken Museum of Art or native pieces from around the world displayed at the Mingei International Museum.

Balboa Park is a cultural center located in the heart of the 49th District. It is a serene, green oasis situated in the middle of a bustling major metropolis. Not only is the San Diego Museum of Art located in this vast cultural enclave, but adults and children alike can learn about the wonders of science at the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, delve into man's past at the Museum of Man, and be engulfed in the beauty surrounding us at the Natural History Museum.

The most popular world famous attraction in the area is the San Diego Zoo. Just this past summer, our zoo became one of the first in history to have a baby Giant Panda live past her first year after being born in captivity. Hua Mei has become the biggest celebrity in San Diego. Visitors from all over the world have made special trips to catch a glimpse of this giant bundle of joy. But long before Hua Mei's birth, the world famous San Diego Zoo has seen the births of many beautiful creatures, such as black rhinos, giraffes, and many endangered species.

Another famous site in San Diego is located on the island city of Coronado. Hollywood superstars have flocked to the legendary and historic Hotel Del Coronado. The "Hotel Del" built in 1888, as one of the oldest standing wood structures of Victorian architecture is a national historic landmark that has a rich and colorful heritage. Ten U.S. presidents have stayed in this extraordinary hotel, starting with Benjamin Harrison in 1891, and since Lyndon Johnson, every president since has visited the "the talk of the Western world." Charles Lindbergh was honored at the Hotel Del after his successful transatlantic flight. Subsequently, the international airport in downtown San Diego is named after this famous aviator—Lindbergh Field. In 1958, the outrageously funny movie "Some Like it Hot" with Marilyn Monroe, Jack Lemmon and Tony Curtis used the Hotel Del as a stage and backdrop.

Speaking of celebrities, San Diego has also been the home of such movie celebrities as Gregory Peck and Rachel Welch, who grew up on the beaches of La Jolla, and Eddie Vedder, lead singer for the popular rock group, Pearl Jam, spent much of his youth at the clubs and beaches of San Diego. Surfing sensation and Nobel Prize recipient Kary Mullis is a friend who continues his research at UCSD. Helen Copley is a powerful newspaper woman who still boasts the only major newspaper in the area, the San Diego Union Tribune. The famous scientist who discovered penicillin, Dr. Jonas Salk, called La Jolla home and also founded the internationally acclaimed

Salk Institute, where scientists from around the world come to study and make scientific breakthroughs. Marine biologists enjoy the access to the sea from their perch in La Jolla and contribute to the Stephen Birch/Scrapps Aquarium.

Dr. Roger Revelle established a name and reputation in the area, and is responsible for the academic achievements and popularity of the University of California at San Diego. Other major universities in the 49th District, include the private and catholic University of San Diego, San Diego State University, and Point Loma Nazarene College. Golf enthusiasts can enjoy the same course played by professionals of the PGA at the public Torrey Pines Golf Course, while watching hang gliders glide off the rocky cliffs or sunbathers at world famous Black's Beach.

Grabbing food in San Diego is a delicious and unique experience—from the quick service of authentic fish tacos at local sensation Rubio's Restaurants to the more formal and decadent dining at any of the restaurants located in the historical Gaslamp District in the heart of downtown San Diego. And no one can visit San Diego without sampling the delights of authentic Mexican fare while viewing the adobes and churches of the first San Diego settlers in historical Old Town. The activities, people and places in California's 49th Congressional District are as numerous and diverse as its residents. There is no other place like it in the world and it is an honor representing its interests and people in Congress.

Happy Birthday, California! And a big thank you to those brave men and women who risked their lives to conquer the unknown and establish such a wonderful place as San Diego and the State of California.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of California's admission to the Union, I rise to bring attention to the 50th Congressional District of California—an urban district in southern San Diego County and the southernmost district in California, bordering Mexico.

I am proud that it is one of the most ethnically diverse congressional districts in the nation. No racial or ethnic group is in the majority: we have 45 percent Latino residents, 25 percent Anglo, 15 percent African-American, and 15 percent Asian-American.

Our residents include veterans, seniors, and working families. We are concerned that our children receive a quality education, that all our families have access to high-quality, affordable health care, that we invest our budget surplus to strengthen Social Security and Medicare, and that we fight to keep the promises that were made to our veterans.

The southernmost neighborhood in my district, San Ysidro, California, is situated on the Mexican border and is the busiest border crossing between any two nations in the world! The proximity of Mexico provides both challenges and opportunities for my district—but we revel in the excitement of a truly bicultural community.

To the east is Otay Mesa, primarily an industrial area with an expanding large-scale manufacturing base. Farther north are the cities of Chula Vista and National City, home to many residential areas and hundreds and hundreds of small businesses. One of the county's largest developments, Eastlake, is rapidly growing to the east of Chula Vista—and Bonita, a neighborhood of middle-class homes

in an unincorporated community of the county, is nearby.

At the northern border of the 50th district is the central portion of the city of San Diego, just south and east of downtown, with many neighborhoods that are experiencing gentrification by "urban pioneers" moving back from the suburbs.

All in all, the people of the 50th congressional district represent the best of America. Industrious and ambitious, striving for a good life for our children and grandchildren, we work and play together in a largely harmonious blend of race, ethnicity, and religion. We believe in the American dream.

I am proud to represent these fine men, women and children, and I am working hard in Congress to ensure the best for their future.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, on the 150th anniversary of California's entrance to the Union, it is with great pleasure that I introduce California's 51st district.

California's 51st district covers most of North County, only minutes from downtown San Diego. North County, well known for its beautiful beaches, ideal weather, and quiet lifestyle has proven attractive to the growing 650,000 who inhabit this region and the many who visit "America's Finest City" and the surrounding area from all over the world.

The 51st district encompasses the coastal towns of Carlsbad, Encinitas, Solana Beach, and Del Mar. Carlsbad is best known for its majestic flower fields and is the predominate supplier of commercially grown flowers on the West Coast. The flower fields are easily seen from 1-5 as one makes their way down this coastal commute. Also, newly constructed Legoland® choose to call Carlsbad home. The amusement park opened in 1999.

Del Mar is where the "turf meets the surf" and is home to the Del Mar Racetrack. One can watch the thoroughbreds and still have a view of the ocean from the grandstand. During the off-season, the Racetrack becomes the Del Mar Fairgrounds. This two-week fair has been a North County tradition since 1936. The fair features rides, livestock shows, exhibitions, agriculture, and local art. Over 1 million people visited the Del Mar Fair last year.

Inland, the towns of San Marcos, Rancho Santa Fe, Escondido, and Poway lie among the rolling hills. Escondido is home to the world famous Wild Animal Park, established in 1969. This 1,800-acre wildlife preserve allows visitors to view herds of exotic animals as they might have been seen in their native Asia and Africa.

A portion of the city of San Diego makes up the remainder of the 51st district. This area includes the former Miramar Naval Air Station. The base, made famous by the 1986 movie *Top Gun*, was home to the elite naval fighter pilot school of the same name. This naval base was converted to the Miramar Marine Corp Air Station in 1996. North County is also home to many veterans and active military who choose to make San Diego their permanent home during and after their military service.

San Diego is also fast-becoming the center of the growing high-tech and bio-tech industries. Qualcomm, Cubic, Hewlett Packard, Sony, Nokia, Erickson, Titan, Ligand Pharmaceuticals, Pyxis, and the Immune Response Corporation all call San Diego home. These booming industries have brought San Diego to the forefront of these exciting new fields.

With its sunny weather and stretch of coastline, it is not surprising that North County is one of the fastest growing areas in California. Mr. Speaker, I consider it a privilege to live in North County and an honored to serve and represent the people of the 51st district.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 150th anniversary of California's admission into the Union. I am fortunate to represent the 52nd Congressional District, a beautiful area along our international border with a rich history and culture. Home to the deserts and agriculture fields of Imperial County, as well as the mountains and urban areas of East San Diego County, the 52nd is as much diverse as it is unique.

As the winter home of the Navy's Blue Angels, and thousands of "snowbirds" from all over the country who come to enjoy the scenery and weather, Imperial County is known as the place "Where the Sun Spends the Winter." It is the home of the Glamis Sand Dunes, the Brawley Cattle Call, and the best farm land in the country, which provides delicious fruits and vegetables the entire country enjoys year-round. Imperial County is also home to the largest body of water in California, the Salton Sea, as well some of the best Mexican food a person can find.

San Diego County draws its name from San Diego de Alcalá, a designation credited to Spaniard Don Sebastian Vizcaino, who sailed into what is now San Diego Bay on November 12, 1603, and renamed it in honor of his flagship and his favorite saint. The County of San Diego was established by the State Legislature on February 18, 1850, as one of the original 27 counties of California with an estimated population of at least 3,490.

Today, almost 100,000 people and 5,000 businesses reside in San Diego's East County alone. Places like El Cajon, which means "the box" in Spanish because the city is completely surrounded by mountains, provides the perfect recreation spot with horseback riding, golf courses, campgrounds, parks and easy access to the many attractions of Southern California.

Another city in East County, La Mesa, is known as the "Jewel of the Hills" to the 56,000 people who call this desirable city their home. La Mesa's location places it close to the cultural facilities, sports, recreation and water-related activities afforded by its proximity to the county's metropolitan center, beaches and bays.

The 52nd Congressional District is made up of communities in which the residents and business people take an active role in protecting and enhancing the quality of living. The number of service clubs and organizations, school and church related groups, and other civic and social organizations, give tangible evidence of the vitality of its citizenry and their active interest in the community. It is a commitment to "community" that gives the 52nd a special identity.

H.R. 1323

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHERWOOD). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I want to talk about legislation that I have been working on. It is H.R.

1323. H.R. 1323 deals with breast implants, an issue that has been the subject of many court cases now for a number of years.

On Monday, the Food and Drug Administration, the FDA, hosted a meeting to discuss research on silicone gel-filled implants, and I am grateful for the FDA in their willingness not only to meet with my own constituents but also other people on my staff on this issue and hopefully will continue to dialogue with the FDA to ensure that women get the information they need on the safety of the implants.

However, the research indicates that platinum salts have been released by silicone gel-filled implants. This is significant information because the platinum salt in certain form is known to be toxic. New technology has allowed scientists to determine that the platinum used as a catalyst in making the gel and the shell of the gel-filled breast implant is being released into the body of women in a harmful toxic form.

Last week, the FDA released information on their web site citing breast implant complications. This is a victory for the consumer advocates who have been working to provide more information to women who are considering implants. However, the information provided in this web site does not include the recent findings on the toxicity of platinum salts found in gel-filled implants.

Women need to know how harmful the release of platinum in their body and to their children who may be nursing can do to them. It has come to my attention that children who breast-feed from mothers with silicon brevity implants may also experience harmful body excess from the toxicity symptoms of exposure of platinum salts.

Symptoms of exposure to platinum in a reactive form can also cause fatigue, dry eyes, dry mouth, joint inflammation, hair loss and also rashes.

As a sponsor of the Silicon Breast Implant Research and Information Act, I believe that the need for more research is especially compelling in light of the FDA's own study on the rupture of silicone breast implants.

On May 18 of this year, Dr. S. Lori Brown's research showed that 69 percent of the women with implants had at least one ruptured breast implant. The FDA concluded that the rupture of silicon breast implants is the primary concern although the relationship of the free silicon to the development or progression of the disease is unknown.

We do know there is a rupture of silicon into the body, but we do not know the impact. That is why we need more research by the FDA.

I heard from my own constituents over the last number of years and literally women across the country, Mr. Speaker, who have suffered from the long-term consequences of reconstruction and cosmetic surgery. They have experienced infections, chronic pain, deformity and implant rupture, inaccurate mammography readings due to